

**INSIDE: TREE TO HONOUR OAC GRAD • STARS IN HIS EYES • VOLUNTEERING IS A TWO-WAY STREET**

## Study Finds Way to Detect Ovarian Cancer Early

*Disease afflicts 2,300 Canadian women each year*

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**U**OF G RESEARCHERS have found a way to detect deadly ovarian cancer in its early stages, a breakthrough that could save thousands of women's lives annually.

Prof. Jim Petrik, Biomedical Sciences, and his colleagues have discovered a protein expressed by ovarian cancer cells that may act as an identifying marker at the onset of the disease.

"Finding a marker that can help in detecting ovarian cancer in the early stages is probably the most important component of beating this disease," says Petrik, who worked on the project with Prof. Roger Moorehead and PhD student Jim Greenaway. "It's a very treatable disease if you can catch it in time."

Ovarian cancer is the most lethal

gynecological cancer, afflicting some 2,300 Canadian women annually. Women can have the disease for years without knowing because the symptoms, which include nausea, bloating and abdominal pain, are vague and can be attributed to a number of ailments, says Petrik.

This is why ovarian cancer often goes undetected until it's well advanced and the odds of survival are poor, he says.

"It's called the silent killer because it really does sneak up on you."

The protein identified by Petrik and his colleagues is expressed almost immediately after the cancer cells interact with the ovary. Their research is to be published in *Gynecologic Oncology*, one of the world's leading cancer journals.

*Continued on page 10*

## U of G, OMAFRA Partnership Worth Billions: Report

*'What an incredible return on an investment'*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**T**HE PARTNERSHIP between the University of Guelph and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) has tremendous economic impact, returning more than a billion dollars a year to the province, according to a new economic analysis.

Ontario is also benefiting from the agreement in critical ways that cannot be fiscally quantified, such as supporting research involving the monitoring and prevention of health threats such as SARS, avian flu and mad cow disease, the report by Deloitte and Touche LLP says.

The global consulting firm looked at the 10-year-old enhanced partnership between U of G and OMAFRA. Under the agreement, the University manages research and education programs and related facilities, supported through an annual \$54-million allocation from the Ontario government.

The report says the partnership returns \$3 for every \$1 received in the form of direct, indirect and associated impacts. And when spinoff effects and other financial returns are considered, the annual economic impact exceeds \$1.15 billion.

"What an incredible return on an investment," says president Alastair Summerlee. "In the last 10 years, this partnership has pumped more than \$10 billion back into the economy. Even more amazing, consider that our relationship with OMAFRA started in the 1930s — long before it was formalized through this agreement. We've been innovating together for 77 years, generating billions and billions of dollars for Ontario."

The report quantified the impact the partnership has on the provincial economy in several areas, including:

- direct economic impacts such as

*Continued on page 10*



Electrical contractors remove a 1950s-vintage surgery light as renovations begin on the new CT scanner suite at OVC.  
PHOTO BY BARRY GUNN

## OVC Renovations Under Way

*New isolation hospital, imaging facilities will improve patient care*

BY BARRY GUNN

**R**ENEWAL of the OVC Teaching Hospital has taken a giant leap forward with the start of construction on two major projects: a stand-alone large-animal isolation hospital and new core imaging facilities in the radiology department.

"These major enhancements are essential if we are to continue to provide our clients with excellence in veterinary health care," says Wayne Coveyduck, executive director of the hospital.

Renovations began in November to accommodate a four-slice Light-speed Plus CT scanner, a Precision

500D X-ray machine with fluoroscopy and new workstations that will complete the hospital's transition into a fully digital environment for diagnostic imaging. The new imaging facilities will be operational in the spring.

Work is to begin this month on the isolation hospital and will continue for several months. When completed late in the fall of 2008, the \$5.6-million facility will boast state-of-the-art housing that will enable OVC's equine specialists to stream patients much more effectively, says Neil Blair, the teaching hospital's acting facilities manager.

"The isolation hospital allows us

to completely separate potentially infectious patients from otherwise healthy horses that are being admitted for basic evaluations or diagnostic procedures," he says. "Animals showing signs of infectious disease — such as salmonella, MRSA or undiagnosed diarrhea — will be directed to the isolation unit."

Accommodating the CT scanner requires major renovations to an old large-animal surgical suite adjacent to the breezeway at the west end of the hospital complex near the MRI facility. The large-animal recovery/induction room next to the MRI suite will also be modified to serve

*Continued on page 8*

## Humboldt Award to Ecologist

*International prize recognizes cutting-edge achievements in science*

**P**ROF. JOHN KLIRONOMOS, Integrative Biology, has received a prestigious Humboldt Research Award, one of the top international prizes recognizing cutting-edge achievements in science. The Guelph ecologist was chosen for his pioneering research on the relationships among plants, fungi and other organisms in the soil.

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, which was established in Berlin in 1860 in memory of the famous scientist and explorer, grants up to 100 research awards annually.

They are intended as a lifelong tribute to the outstanding impact internationally recognized scientists and scholars have had on their area of study.

"This is one of the most prestigious awards in international science, and for John to have been nominated by German scientists speaks volumes about the calibre of his research," says CBS dean Mike Emes. "We are all truly proud of his achievements."

Valued at close to \$88,000, the award allows recipients to carry out

research projects of their choice in Germany for up to a year in co-operation with German colleagues.

Klironomos, a U of G faculty member since 1996, says he's honoured to receive the award and plans to spend three months this summer and next in Germany working to complete a book on plant ecology.

He's also working with collaborators in Germany on a number of research projects focused on mycorrhizal associations — the interactions that happen below ground among plants, soil and fungi.



## Proposed University Centre Renovations

The University Centre Board is reviewing options that would alter the University Centre. The proposed plans are based on the original 2002 space study and the current 2007 space report, which can both be viewed at

[www.uoguelph.ca/uc renovations](http://www.uoguelph.ca/uc renovations).

The proposed layout changes for the second and fourth floors in the University Centre are also detailed in the two floor plans extracted for individual viewing on this website. These proposed changes will alter the floor layouts and the number of people on the floor, will change traffic patterns and will reduce the number of bookable meeting rooms.

The University Centre Board is requesting your or your organization's input. If you believe these changes will have an impact on you or your organization and you would like to participate in the consultation process, please contact board secretary Lynn Barrington at Ext. 53903 or lbarrington@uoguelph.ca.

All responses must be received by Jan. 31, 2008.



Michael H.C. McMurray  
Partner



210 Kortright Road West, Unit #8  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Fax: (519) 826-4994  
Email: michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com

- RRSP and Investment Accounts and Deposits
- RRSP Loans at Prime +0
- Michael can answer your questions and help you explore your options
- Call today for a free consultation

## MONTESSORI

SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON  
established 1996



- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR  
SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**

(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
[www.montessori-school.ca](http://www.montessori-school.ca)

# Tree to Honour Jocius

*Journey of Growth Fund established in memory of pioneering OAC grad*

**T**HE NEW GREEN SPACE on the south side of the University Centre will soon be more than grass and shrubbery. This spring, the area will be further beautified with the planting of an oak tree, intended to represent a real-life version of the tree of life that graces the atrium of the science complex.

The oak tree, which is being donated by the Arboretum and is expected to grow to 70 feet, represents not only a tree of knowledge but also the memory of Ginty Jocius, a 1970 OAC graduate and longtime friend and supporter of U of G who died Jan. 2 after a two-year battle with brain cancer.

"This tree will be a living manifestation of the capacities and interests Ginty had in his life," says president Alastair Summerlee. "He planted his roots in this institution and in this community, and it's a fitting tribute to his memory."

After graduating from OAC, Jocius worked with CBC radio and was an executive assistant to two Ontario ministers of agriculture. He later worked in the cattle industry, where he launched the Ontario Beef Exchange, the first-ever video auction, then went on to found Ginty Jocius & Associates, a Guelph-based agri-marketing and communications firm.

In 1994, Jocius, who received a number of awards and accolades for his vision and dedication to Ontario's agribusiness industry, created Canada's Outdoor Farm Show, the largest outdoor agricultural trade show in Canada. A decade later, he started the Great Canadian Outdoor Expo, which encouraged families to explore the outdoors.

Here at U of G, he was instrumental in helping create and promote the Arboretum and served as chair of the OAC Alumni Founda-

tion. He was also a member of the U of G Alma Mater Fund Advisory Committee and was named Alumnus of Honour by the U of G Alumni Association in 1996.

In memory of Jocius, a fund has been established to help encourage the next generation of great agricultural professionals. Available to OAC undergraduate and diploma students, the Ginty Jocius Journey of Growth Fund will provide financial assistance to those participating in meetings, conferences, seminars, trade shows and course field trips. It can also be used for students travelling with a group in conjunction with the Canada's Outdoor Farm Show travel grant.

For more information, contact Paulette Samson, director of OAC advancement, at Ext. 53768 or psamson@uoguelph.ca. Online donation forms are available at [www.outdoorfarmshow.com](http://www.outdoorfarmshow.com).

## Lewis to Speak on Campus

*Citizenship Awareness Week events aim to boost civic participation*

**S**TEPHEN LEWIS, one of the world's most influential speakers on human rights, social justice and international development, will give a talk Jan. 17 at War Memorial Hall. Best known for his international efforts to bring attention to the AIDS crisis in Africa, he will discuss "Linking Local and Global Citizenship."

The event is sponsored by Student Affairs in collaboration with a number of other University organizations and is part of Citizenship Awareness Week running until Jan. 20. Free tickets to the talk will be available to the first 100 people at the door.

"The week's events are designed to increase civic participation such as voting and volunteering, particularly among students," says Emily Reed, co-ordinator of citizenship and community engagement in Student Life. "We hope students will take the opportunity to reflect on what citizenship means to them, both locally and globally."

Other events planned for Citizenship Awareness Week include a Global Café hosted by the Centre for International Programs Jan. 17 at 10 a.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre and an information session on volunteering abroad presented by Student Volunteer Connections Jan.

18 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in UC 103.

The second annual Positive Social Action Conference runs Jan. 19 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Bullring and the MacKinnon Building. The conference aims to engage students in becoming involved locally and internationally.

The week wraps up Jan. 20 with a tree and wildflower transplanting from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Green Legacy Tree Nursery, hosted by Student Life. A bus will leave from the Mountain Hall overpass at 9:50 a.m.

Visit [www.studentlife.uoguelph.ca/citizenshipcommunity/citizenship-month.cfm](http://www.studentlife.uoguelph.ca/citizenshipcommunity/citizenship-month.cfm) for more information.

## Student Vets Host Symposium

**S**OME OF CANADA'S future leaders in veterinary medicine, research and public health are on campus this week for the 2008 Students of the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association Symposium. About 300 students from the country's four veterinary colleges are participating in the four-day event hosted by OVC.

"The goal is to present unique networking and career-building opportunities that aren't offered in the regular DVM curriculum," says third-year OVC student Scarlett Magda, chair of the symposium.

This year's theme is "The Veterinarians of Today, the Leaders of Tomorrow." Keynote speaker is Shawn McVey, executive director of Eye Clinic for Animals, which provides ophthalmic care for companion animals throughout the United States. He will discuss emotional intelligence and veterinary medicine.

Other symposium highlights include an update on opportunities in the Canadian Veterinary Reserve; lectures on topics such as ecosystem health, animal welfare and public health; tours of OVC facilities; and hands-on sessions with some of the

college's leading clinicians and researchers.

"The symposium gives students a chance to see the profession from countless angles and realize the various options that will be available to them upon graduation," says Magda. "It's also a great opportunity to promote OVC and the University of Guelph, meet other Canadian veterinary students and network with the top leaders in the profession."

The event is being supported by Scotiabank, with assistance from Hill's Pet Nutrition and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

at GUELPH

**Editor** Barbara Chance  
b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Design** Peter Enneson

**Production** Linda Graham  
l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Advertising** Scott Anderson  
theadersonsdifference@rogers.com

**Director** Chuck Cunningham  
c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca

At Guelph is published every two weeks by Communications and Public Affairs, Level 4, University Centre, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.

Inquiries: 519-824-4120

Editorial: Ext. 56580

Distribution: Ext. 56581

Advertising: Ext. 56580

[www.uoguelph.ca/adguide](http://www.uoguelph.ca/adguide)

Classification: Ext. 56581

Fax: 519-824-7962

Website: [www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph](http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph)

Articles may be reprinted with credit to At Guelph.

**Subscriptions**

\$25 (includes GST);  
\$30 outside Canada  
ISSN 08364478



**WINEGARD LECTURE JAN. 29**

David Runnalls, president of the International Institute for Sustainable Development, will give the Winegard Visiting Lectureship in International Development Jan. 29 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 103 of Rozanski Hall. His topic is "Climate Change and Development: Engaging the South in the Fight to Save the Planet." Runnalls, who has served as co-chair of the China Council Task Force on WTO and Environment, will be on campus Jan. 28 to 30.

**CRIFS HOSTS TRAINING FOR CHINESE DELEGATION**

The Canadian Research Institute for Food Safety recently hosted a delegation of 16 officers from the general administration of Quality Supervision Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China. In addition to providing training, the visit was aimed at promoting collaboration between Canada and China in the area of food safety. U of G faculty, staff and PhD students gave lectures to the visitors, as did a number of other experts.

**UGAA SEEKS NOMINATIONS**

The U of G Alumni Association is calling for nominations for its annual awards by Jan. 25. The categories are: Alumnus of Honour, Alumni Medal of Achievement, Alumni Volunteer, Employee Volunteer and Student Volunteer. More details and a nomination form are available at [www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/involved/involved\\_awards.shtml](http://www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/involved/involved_awards.shtml). For other questions, call Ext. 53170 or send e-mail to [mamoroz@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mamoroz@uoguelph.ca). The OVC Alumni Association is calling for nominations for the OVC Distinguished Alumnus award. Call Ext. 54454 for details.

**CBS AWARD HONOURS TEACHING EXCELLENCE**

The College of Biological Science is calling for nominations for its 2008 Award for Excellence in Teaching. All members of the University community are invited to nominate a faculty member or a teaching team or group in CBS for this award. Nomination forms are available in the offices of department chairs and should be submitted to the dean of CBS by the first week of March.

**IN MEMORIAM**

**PROF. TED HADWEN**

Prof. Ted Hadwen, a retired faculty member and former chair in the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, died Dec. 27 at the age of 74. A graduate of the University of British Columbia, Cambridge University and Yale University, he taught at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles before joining the newly created University of Guelph in 1966. An award-winning teacher, he spent almost 30 years at U of G, retiring in 1994. He is survived by his wife, Alison; two daughters, Alden and Wendy; two sons, Seymour and Harry; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

# From One Culture to Another

*Prof studies how British novels were received in Italy in the late 18th century*

BY TERESA PITMAN

THERE'S A LIBRARY in Venice, Italy, that stores copies of local newspapers that are hundreds of years old. It doesn't allow them to go out on interlibrary loan, so if you want to use them for research, you have to go to Venice.

That might seem like a negative thing for some people, but not for European studies professor Sandra Parmegiani, who joined the School of Languages and Literatures last summer. Not only does it give her a great excuse to visit Italy, but it also means these periodicals haven't been mined extensively for their research potential. For Parmegiani, that's a bonus.

"I've been studying how British novels were received in Italy in the late 18th century," she explains. "At that time, Italy was dominated by French culture, and Britain seemed very foreign and exotic. Then some British novels that had been translated into French were translated again — from French to Italian — and I've been interested in seeing the Italian response to those books."

In the late 1700s, Venice was the biggest, most vibrant market in Italy for books, especially foreign books, says Parmegiani. So the local newspapers of that time are rich in information, much of it not yet dissected and analyzed by researchers.

She's also intrigued by the fact that British books were usually translated twice.

"We tend to think that when a book is translated, it isn't changed much, but the reality is that with any translation, the book is filtered and adapted to fit the culture. One example is *Robinson Crusoe*, which was reduced in length to half of the original when it was translated into French. Italian reviewers said how grateful they were that they had this shortened version and didn't have to waste time wading through all the extraneous material in the book."

Heading for Italy to do research is especially appealing for Parmegiani because it means going home. She was born in the port city of Trieste about an hour and a half away from Venice. Like many places in Europe, Trieste has a complicated history. Solidly inside the Italian border now, it has been under the control of other countries over the centuries and was governed by the Allies after the Second World War. That variegated heritage is a source of some of her interest in joining U of G's European studies program.

"I've always felt this allegiance to central Europe and not just Italy," she says.



Prof. Sandra Parmegiani is always happy to head to Italy to do research because it means going home. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

After earning a BA and a doctorate at Università degli Studi di Trieste, Parmegiani headed off to Canada to do a PhD in Italian studies at the University of Toronto. After completing that degree, and wanting to get more teaching experience under her belt, she accepted a one-year position at Trinity College in Dublin, Ireland.

"I certainly got my wish," she laughs. "Trinity College is on the trimester system, and I taught five different courses each trimester — 15 in total. By the end of that year, I felt very comfortable and confident about my ability to teach."

When the Trinity position ended, she joined the University of Western Ontario and taught there for three years before applying to U of G. Her daughter, Francesca, was born in London, and Parmegiani smiles as she recalls that she had to schedule her interview at Guelph around Francesca's feeding times.

Besides teaching, Parmegiani continues her research on various aspects of Italian literature as well as her work on British novels translated into Italian. She has written a book about a publisher who sought to preserve Italian culture after the Second

World War, and is preparing a book manuscript on the Italian Romantic writer Ugo Foscolo. She is also beginning research on novelist Claudio Magris. In addition, she has found other materials in the Venice periodicals that have caught her interest and is looking forward to expanding her research into new areas.

But for now, she's happy to be a bit more settled. "In the past five years, I've taught at three different universities on two continents."

She hopes to find time to get back into creating pottery, something she also studied while living in Toronto, and horseback riding. Parmegiani had a chance to ride some of the famous Lipizzaner horses when she lived in Italy and once took a riding vacation through Hungary.

Meanwhile, she's excited to be part of Guelph's expanding European studies program.

"We have a master's program this year, and the students are very good. I have great respect for my colleagues, and I like that most of the courses are co-taught. It gives the students a broad perspective on European culture and arts. And of course, I love teaching about Italian language and literature."

## Gambling Lab Makes Headlines

THE JAN. 7 OPENING of Ontario's first comprehensive gambling research lab at U of G received extensive coverage in the national media. The lab and research on gambling behaviour by Prof. Karen Finlay, Marketing and Consumer

Studies, were featured in newspapers and on radio and TV across the country, including CBC's *The National*, *Global National*, CTV's *Canada AM*, CBC national and French radio, CTV *Newsnet*, the *Globe and Mail*, the *Toronto Star*, the *National Post* and Canadian Press.

The new lab will allow Finlay and Guelph professors Jane Londerville, Vinay Kanetkar and Harvey Marmurek to continue research into how casino environments and the design of gaming machines affect people's willingness to put their money at risk.

## people

**ONTARIO LIBRARIANS PAY TRIBUTE TO RIDLEY**

Chief information officer Michael Ridley has been named the first recipient of the Ontario Library Association's newly renamed Larry Moore Distinguished Service Award, the OLA's highest honour. It recognizes individual members who have contributed significantly over time to the ongoing work of the association and of libraries in Ontario. Ridley was nominated by all six of the OLA's divisions and will be honoured at the association's 2008 Super Conference in Toronto.

**OAC PROF APPOINTED TO FEDERAL ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Federal Minister of Health Tony Clement recently named Prof. Cynthia Scott-Dupree, Environmental Biology, to the Pest Management Advisory Council. The council reports to the Pest Management Regulatory Agency and provides input on policies and issues related to the federal regulatory system. Scott-Dupree's appointment is for two years.

**TREVORS NAMED FELLOW**

Prof. Jack Trevors, Environmental Biology, has been named a Fellow of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry. He was also recently appointed chair of the Education Committee for the Canadian College of Microbiologists.

**THOMPSON PLAY PREMIERES**

*Palace of the End*, a new play by Prof. Judith Thompson, English and Theatre Studies, opened this week at the Canadian Stage Company in Toronto and runs until Feb. 23. For ticket information, call 1-877-399-2651.

**KUDOS FOR GRAD STUDENT**

Jordana Van Geest, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Environmental Biology, received the Canadian Association for Environmental Analytical Laboratories' 2007 Student Scholarship Award for Eastern Canada. The award recognizes individual contributions to the data quality aspects of environmental measurement. Her supervisors are Prof. Keith Solomon and David Poirier.

**MCLEAN IS HONORARY CHAIR**

Cyndy McLean, director of the Health and Performance Centre, has been named chair of the YMCA-YWCA of Guelph's 13th annual Women of Distinction Awards. Nominations for this year's awards are due Jan. 31.

**SINGER-SONGWRITER RELEASES NEW ALBUM**

Tannis Slimmon, a technician in the Department of Integrative Biology, will mark the release of her second solo album with two concerts Jan. 19. The shows begin at 4 and 8 p.m. at Guelph Christian Church, 126 Norwich St. E. Her new album, called *Lucky Blue*, was produced by Lewis Melville, also a technician in the Department of Integrative Biology, who is one of a number of musicians who will join Slimmon on stage at the concerts.





Prof. Andrew Hathaway hopes to bring perspective to current debates about marijuana. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Through the Smoke

Sociologist studies marijuana use and policy

BY TERESA PITMAN

**"S**TUDY WHAT YOU KNOW." That's the advice Prof. Andrew Hathaway, Sociology and Anthropology, got several years ago when he started working on his master's degree at the University of Calgary. With that in mind, he decided to study people who used marijuana.

What intrigued him was the way marijuana use was typically seen as part of a subculture of deviance. But Hathaway, who joined U of G last summer, says that "didn't fit my observations at all. Marijuana use was popular with a wide range of people."

For his master's thesis, he interviewed 30 people about their marijuana use and developed his own perspective on the issue.

"People talked about the benefits they experienced — that it was an aid to relaxation, a way to broaden perspective and gain new insights. It didn't fit into the deviance framework but was more about lifestyle."

The posters in his office and even his computer screensaver repeat the cannabis theme and poke a little fun at the scare campaigns of the past.

Although Hathaway's initial research was simply trying to uncover a sociological framework for marijuana use, he says his PhD work (completed at McMaster University) had a broader, more policy-oriented focus.

"For my dissertation, I talked to the 'movers and shakers' of the marijuana decriminalization movement."

Since then, he's done studies with the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health in Toronto, where he contin-

ues to maintain a research office.

Hathaway is frequently quoted by reporters and invited to speak at conferences about issues such as the decriminalization of marijuana and medical uses of the drug. He has also testified as an expert witness for the Senate Committee on Illegal Drugs.

One of his goals is to help bring some perspective to the sometimes-emotional debate on marijuana policy.

"Looking at Canadian policy is interesting," he says. "Our current policy has a veneer of being based on science and rational thinking, but really it's based on political ideology with science used to bolster its claims."

Here at Guelph, Hathaway teaches criminology "from a background in the sociology of deviance." He's especially interested in considering how some behaviours, once seen as bad or wrong, become normalized and others become marginalized. This can happen either formally through the passing of laws or more informally through society-wide changes in customary, accepted behaviours, he says.

Despite the attention his work has received from the public, the media and policy-makers, Hathaway acknowledges that attracting research grants when the topic is marijuana use can be a challenge. His preference for qualitative research also makes it harder to get funding, he says, but "I like the research methods that involve speaking to people about their experiences, getting your hands dirty and really talking to people, not just sending around surveys. I think it breaks down the barriers that science and academia tend to set up."

## English Scholar to Premiere Operetta Based on Wilde Play

Toronto production to present *Earnest* in new light

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**U**NIVERSITY professor emeritus Eugene Benson will be hitting the world stage next month when his operetta *Earnest, the Importance of Being* runs for three performances at the Jane Mallett Theatre in Toronto.

"It's the world premiere, and it's being presented by professional singers with professional sets and costumes and an orchestra," says Benson, a retired faculty member in the School of English and Theatre Studies. "It's all very exciting."

The production, which runs Feb. 22 to 24, also marks the first time Toronto Operetta Theatre will present an original work, he adds. Its repertoire during its 22 years has been traditional operettas that were written in the 19th and 20th centuries.

Benson worked on the operetta with noted composer Victor Davies, and the script is based on the Oscar Wilde play *The Importance of Being Earnest*.

An operetta is a genre of opera that is "light" both in terms of music and subject matter, says Benson. The performances are often comical, and there is generally not the same grand

orchestra that accompanies classic opera.

"If I thought it was heavy and serious and people were there only because it was deemed high culture, that would not interest me," he says. "But operettas are great fun, and this one has lots of laughs."

Benson has been writing libretti for more than 40 years. He began attending ballets and operas as a teenager and wrote his first script for an operetta in the early 1950s. Based on the love story of the historical characters Heloise and Abelard, his work was presented by the Canadian Opera Company in 1973.

Writing for opera and operettas requires an ability to write a text to music or to translate and edit an existing play or story so that it can be performed musically, he says.

"It's about preparing a story so that it lends itself to music. You can't just take a novel, for example, and perform it as an opera. The opera would be more than 10 hours if you did that. You have to adapt the play or novel to give the audience all the key elements of the original work but also to introduce music and singing at certain high moments. It's a way

of showing the original work in a new light."

*Earnest, the Importance of Being* was first workshopped at the Stratford Summer Music festival in 2005. The actors then put on a small performance at Stratford's City Hall, and it was the success of that single performance that sparked the interest of Toronto Operetta Theatre, says Benson.

He is currently fine-tuning the operetta with Davies. The two also worked together on a musical version of Charles Dickens's *A Tale of Two Cities*, which was workshopped by the Stratford Festival in 1999.

Musical conductor of the production is Jeffrey Huard, who has directed a number of world premieres of musical works, including *Kiss of the Spider Woman*, *Phantom of the Opera* and *Sunset Boulevard*.

Benson says the weeks leading up to a premiere can be stressful, "but it's worth it. Drama has always been my passion, and I love how something I've helped create on paper has the opportunity to come to life on stage."

For ticket information, call 416-366-7723 or 1-800-708-6754.

## Volunteering a Two-Way Street

Study shows agencies need to become more savvy in their approach to volunteers

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**V**OLUNTEERING isn't the casual charitable activity it used to be, says Prof. Ben Gottlieb, Psychology. In a recent study, he found that if community agencies want to entice and retain today's volunteers, they need to offer more than just an opportunity to give back.

Gottlieb and doctoral student Alayna Gillespie investigated what attracts people to start volunteering and what influences them to stay long term at an agency.

"We found that although volunteers are still motivated by the desire to help others and give back to the community, they also expect their agency to make optimal use of the resources they bring and invest in their development," says Gottlieb.

Catering to the needs of volunteers is becoming even more important as the baby-boomer generation retires and becomes part of the available volunteer pool, he adds.

"They have higher expectations for volunteering experiences than past cohorts. Good management practices are also very important to baby boomers, so they will expect agencies to deploy them in thoughtful, stimulating and meaningful ways; otherwise, they will leave."

Working in collaboration with

the Ontario Community Support Association, the researchers focused on volunteers aged 60 and older. This age cohort tends to volunteer the most hours. According to a 2001 Statistics Canada report, 47 per cent of people 60 and older volunteer, providing an average of 269 volunteer hours a year each.

As part of the study, the researchers interviewed volunteers who provided services in the areas of meal delivery, escorted transportation, palliative care and friendly visits to housebound people.

Gottlieb says the findings showed that volunteers who had a large number of goals for their volunteer work and believed it used their skills had the strongest attachment to their agencies and experienced the greatest personal development.

"If an agency can properly utilize their volunteers' individual skills as well as identify volunteers' goals and then ensure they are attaining these goals, there's a greater likelihood the agencies will be able to retain their volunteers in the long term."

In the study, the researchers identified three types of skills sets that older adults bring to their volunteering: social skills such as friendliness and compassion; executive and management skills such as leadership, problem solving and

time management; and mental and physical skills such as personal energy, attention and concentration, and physical stamina.

Based on these findings, Gottlieb says agencies should provide volunteer opportunities that use these three skills sets and should also sit down regularly with volunteers to discuss whether more can be done to make use of their resources.

As for the goals people have for volunteering, participants identified keeping mentally and physically active, making new friends, structuring time and helping others as reasons for doing volunteer work.

Agencies can use these motivating factors to help market themselves to potential volunteers, he says. Volunteer managers can also help retain recruits by reminding them of the many goals they are meeting through their work.

"As older adult volunteers are becoming increasingly vital to community support services, it's important to continue to monitor what motivates them to volunteer and which factors play a role in retaining them," says Gottlieb. "This research shows agencies have to become a bit more sophisticated and savvy when it comes to satisfying the needs of volunteers and determining how to make the best use of them."



# A New World View

BY TERESA PITMAN

**L**ISA BLENKINSOP wants to give U of G students the world. As study-abroad manager in the Centre for International Programs (CIP), she helps hundreds of students each year navigate their way through academic exchanges and semesters abroad around the globe.

After four years with CIP, first as education-abroad adviser and now in her current position, Blenkinsop has plenty of tips for travellers. She even had a rare opportunity to travel abroad herself this past fall, heading to Norway for a conference. While in Scandinavia, she also visited Denmark and Sweden, meeting with some of U of G's study-abroad partners and recruiting new ones.

In CIP, Blenkinsop provides administrative services for two programs — exchanges and semesters abroad.

In exchanges, individual students or groups of two to five travel to one of Guelph's partner universities to study for a semester or two, and the partner sends the same number of students to U of G.

"We have about 60 exchange partners around the world," she says. "Part of my job is to negotiate agreements with those partners when they come up for renewal and to seek out new universities to partner with." Ten to 15 contracts need to be renegotiated each year.

"Australia is the most popular destination chosen by our students, and there are good reasons. The weather's warm, they speak English, and the culture is cool."

Europe, especially the United Kingdom, is also high on the list, she says. Many universities in countries where English isn't the first language teach a large number of their courses in English and offer language



Lisa Blenkinsop of the Centre for International Programs helps students see the world.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

courses so students can also learn a foreign language while studying in English, she says.

Students interested in applying for an exchange first meet with a CIP peer helper and attend information sessions, then complete an online application and choose their top three destinations.

"I was very involved in developing the whole online application process," says Blenkinsop. "It's now entirely paperless, saving both time and the environment. Even the reference forms are completed online."

About 400 students apply each year for study-abroad programs, and almost all who meet the academic re-

quirements will find a placement, although not necessarily their first choice, she says.

The semester-abroad program typically involves 20 to 25 students per program. In each semester abroad, a group of students travels with a faculty member to one of the partnership locations: London, Paris, Krakow, India or Guatemala. The London program runs every fall; the others are offered every other year.

"The Guelph professor normally teaches one or two courses during the semester, and the rest are taught by local professors," says Blenkinsop. "They take advantage of

the location — in Paris, for example, they offer courses on the architecture there."

Both exchange students and semester-abroad students pay their U of G tuition fees plus their travel and accommodation costs. Some government funding is available, and CIP helps students figure out what's possible, she says.

A Guelph biology graduate, Blenkinsop says her appreciation of the value of international experiences was sparked a few years ago when she was working as an employment counsellor for a non-profit organization and was asked to work on a program for youth from Northern

Ireland.

"It was a chance for both Catholic and Protestant youth to get out of the conflict in Ireland. They came to Canada and lived with host families and worked here. It gave them a chance to get a new perspective on things and to get to know each other in a new way."

A new perspective is what U of G students take away from their international experiences as well, she says.

"They come back different — more confident, better at speaking up for themselves, more aware of what's going on around the world. Some have a tough adjustment at first, but almost everyone ends up falling in love with the culture and the people they meet."

Each year, CIP runs a photo contest that lets students tell the story of their experiences in a visual way. These photos help give students who are considering studying abroad an idea of what to expect, she says.

Blenkinsop's goal is to continually improve what CIP has to offer.

"It's not just about how many students we send — it's about how we can help them, how we can improve their learning and social experiences while they're abroad. I think these are amazing opportunities for students — to get credits while you travel and discover another culture. But we want to keep making it better."

She also wants to help make it greener and is looking for ways to reduce the environmental and social impact of travelling abroad.

"This is near and dear to me," says Blenkinsop, whose interest in environmental issues is what initially motivated her to study biology.

"We're looking at introducing a carbon offsetting program for our students who are travelling."

519 824-4120  
Ext. 58031

Visit us at the University Centre

## Banner Stands

Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand

Large Format Printing By: Roland

Banner-Up Retractable

[www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)

(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available

**DOWNTOWN GUELPH**  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

519 **836-3810**

[www.guelphmontessori.com](http://www.guelphmontessori.com)

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts
  - Swimming
  - Musikgarten
  - Skating
  - Yoga
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers

"Within the Child Lies the Fate of the Future"  
Dr. Maria Montessori

## 2008 Europe & Russia Grand River Cruises

Select from 7- to 28-night cruises onboard intimate, boutique, hotel-style ships. All Grand River Cruises include: riverview staterooms, all meals and entertainment onboard, shore excursions fully hosted by English-speaking guides, and transfers on day of arrival and departure.

Enjoy Grand River Cruise Savings:

**Early Booking Discount\***  
SAVE up to \$500 USD per couple (\$250 USD per person) with our Early Booking Discount when you book and deposit your cruise by January 31, 2008

\*Savings and discounts are listed in U.S. dollars. Actual savings and discounts vary by program and may be less. The Early Booking Discount requires a \$200 individual deposit at time of booking and is combinable with all offers except the Pay-in-Full Savings offer. Offers are subject to availability and are capacity controlled. Other restrictions may apply and Uniworld reserves the right to withdraw these offers at any time. For complete details, general information, and Terms and Conditions applicable to all Uniworld trips - Please call Royal City Travel.

ON Reg. NDB2716341

# ROYAL CITY TRAVEL

ROYAL PLAZA (Norfolk & Paisley) Guelph 519-763-3520

[www.royalcitytravel.com](http://www.royalcitytravel.com)



# The Good Bugs and the Bad Bugs

New U of G researcher studies gut microbes to help develop therapies for inflammatory bowel disease

BY REBECCA KENDALL

**D**ID YOU KNOW that right now you have more bacteria living in your gut than there are people living on the planet? Not necessarily a topic to discuss around the dinner table, but it's true, says Prof. Emma Allen-Vercoe, who joined the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology in December after spending six years at the University of Calgary—four as a post-doctoral researcher and two as a faculty member.

The bacteria or "bugs" that live in the gut are the focus of Allen-Vercoe's research.

"It's becoming increasingly clear that our gut microflora are key to our overall health, yet very little is known of the ecology and physiology of these organisms and their interactions with host cells," she says.

All humans have unique microflora or a "poo print" made up of up to 1,000 different bacterial species that remain with them throughout their entire life.

"The microflora contribute a great deal to health," she says. "Research suggests they play a huge role in obesity and cancer, and the list goes on."

Allen-Vercoe, who completed a B.Sc. at the University of London and a PhD at the Open University in Milton Keynes, England, in collaboration with the Centre for Applied and Microbiological Research, is currently studying how the gut microflora contribute to inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), an umbrella term for ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

With ulcerated colitis, patients have an inflamed colon, whereas Crohn's patients can have inflam-



Prof. Emma Allen-Vercoe's science complex lab has been developed to study fastidious bacterial species from the gut and is one of the few places in Canada where this research can be done. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWATBE

mation anywhere from the mouth to the anus, she says. Symptoms of these diseases include diarrhea, weight loss and abdominal pain, and although therapies are available to lessen these symptoms, IBD can be fatal in severe cases, and there is no cure.

"We do know, however, that the bacteria that live in the gut play a huge role in triggering and exacerbating these diseases. Patients with IBD may have a slightly lower diversity of bacterial flora than healthy people do, and we don't know why. We want to figure out which bacterial species are the ringleaders, so to speak, in triggering IBD. If we can find this out, it will allow us to develop new therapies for this debilitating condition."

Although antibiotic therapies are helpful, no antibiotic targets one specific bacterium, says Allen-Vercoe.

"The problem is, there are beneficial bacteria that live in the gut as well as harmful species, and antibiotic therapy could wipe out the good bacteria, causing more harm to the patient. Thus, an important aim of my research is to figure out which are the bad bugs in IBD."

She's been studying these bugs since 2005 and is especially interested in *Fusobacterium nucleatum*, an invasive anaerobic bacterium that commonly lives in the mouth and causes an inflammatory disease called periodontitis. She's trying to learn more about how it interacts with the cells inside the gut.

"It seems to be a very complicated area I've landed myself in," says Allen-Vercoe, who has examined biopsy samples from IBD patients and has already found *F. nucleatum* to be an exacerbating factor in the condition. Despite this conclusion, the cause of IBD is still unknown and the search continues, she says.

Research of this kind has been difficult to do in the past because most of the bacteria that live in the gut are nutritionally fastidious and grow only in conditions without oxygen, she says.

"It's tricky to create appropriate conditions available to house so many of them and grow them outside their natural habitat inside the human body."

Allen-Vercoe's lab in the science complex, which was set up while she was still at Calgary, has been developed to study fastidious bacterial species from the gut. It's one of the few places in Canada where this research can be done.

The lab has already garnered attention from scientists at the Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard University who are working with the National Institutes of Health on a multi-million-dollar Roadmap Initiative that aims to sequence genomes of bacteria isolates from humans in an attempt to complement the now complete human genome sequence.

The lab has a collection of about 1,000 different bacterial isolates, some of which have not previously been discovered and are currently being categorized. Allen-Vercoe is supplying Broad with isolates that account for 20 per cent of what the institute needs to complete the first phase of the project.

"What was surprising to us was that we've found so many novel species just by using specially adapted microbiological techniques," she says.

Allen-Vercoe, who moved from Calgary in October with her husband and their children, Phoebe, 8, and Zoe, 18 months, says the decision to relocate to Guelph was an easy one to make because of the University's reputation.

"The microbiology program is highly respected across Canada. In fact, the best graduate students we had at Calgary did their undergraduate degree here at Guelph. My former colleagues are envious that I'm getting to work with these students before they'll have the chance to."

## Cold Comfort

Study finds childhood trauma hinders young moms' ability to nurture their own kids

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**M**OTHERS WITH UNRESOLVED issues related to childhood trauma often struggle to develop an effective attachment to their own children, says Prof. Heidi Bailey, Psychology. This is worrisome because it leaves the children without a sense of security and can lead to behavioural problems down the road, she says.

"It's stressful for children to grow up without having a consistent and engaging relationship with their mother, and it can have a negative impact on a child's emotional development. In this way, children experience the second-generation effect of their mother's own childhood trauma experiences."

In a study involving 99 teenaged mothers with infants, Bailey and a team of researchers found that the women who had endured childhood trauma due to neglect, loss of a loved one or some form of abuse and had yet to deal with this trauma also frequently struggled to develop an engaging or emotionally supportive relationship with their babies.

As part of the study, which was published recently in *Development and Psychopathology*,

the researchers first interviewed the mothers to determine who had endured childhood trauma and had not resolved their experiences. Bailey says they chose to focus on mothers between the ages of 15 and 19 because they are a group at a higher social risk.

"Although there are teenage mothers who function well, as a group they more frequently report childhood abuse or neglect and they have had less time to work through such experiences," she says. "They are also at an increased risk for insensitive and unresponsive parenting."

The researchers then observed how the mothers interacted with their 12-month-old infants at home and in a lab setting.

At home, the children of mothers with unresolved issues would often play by themselves.

"In some families, there was no evidence of a close relationship between mother and child," says Bailey. "It was like the mother and child were living separate lives. The mother was emotionally unavailable and disengaged, and the child was sad and withdrawn."

She says these children would often seek attention from visitors rather than from their own mother.

In the lab, she observed how the children responded when their mother left them alone in a room and then returned moments later. The children who had close relationships with their mother greeted her with happiness when she returned, and if they were upset, the children asked to be picked up and comforted.

"It's a good sign when children clearly ask for comfort from their parents when they need it," says Bailey.

But the children of mothers with unresolved issues often appeared to struggle with asking their mother for help, she says. When these mothers returned, these children often looked disoriented or fearful and tried unsuccessfully to hold their feelings inside. If they did try to ask their mother for help, they did so in vague and confusing ways. They might start to walk towards their mother, then stop or reach their arms up to be picked up, but once they're in their mother's arms, they try to avoid contact by turning away.

"Mothers who have unresolved issues often are more emotionally stressed, and these children can feel that their mothers are stressed and less able to comfort them. So instead of going to their mothers for comfort when they're

feeling vulnerable, these children try to keep their feelings inside but fail to cope with them. This can be harmful because these children aren't learning how to cope with stress."

In addition, children who don't experience a close emotional connection with a parent tend to have more difficulty trusting others and establishing close relationships as adults, Bailey says.

She emphasizes that it's possible for mothers who've had difficult childhoods to have healthy relationships with their children, but support needs to be in place for these mothers to resolve issues they may have to overcome.

She notes that current programs such as the provincially funded Healthy Babies, Healthy Children, which offers visiting services routinely to young families at social risk, are excellent steps towards supporting mothers.

"Most of these women want the best for their children, but they're facing obstacles that most of us would find incredibly difficult. As a society, we need to help mothers who haven't had a chance to cope with their own difficult experiences. It's our responsibility to provide them with the support they need so that it doesn't affect their children."



# profile

## Stars in His Eyes

*Grad student uses Brock award and 'crazy tools' to plumb workings of the universe*

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**P**AUL FINLAY KNOWS ALL ABOUT the grad studies rule of thumb: don't pursue your graduate degrees at the same school and especially not at the school where you did your undergraduate work. He also knows when to buck conventional wisdom.

"The school doesn't matter," says Finlay, who completed his B.Sc. and master's degree at Guelph with Prof. Carl Svensson, Physics. "What research are you doing and who's your supervisor? That's what matters."

Standing his ground since arriving as an undergrad in 2000 has paid off for the young physicist, in more ways than one. Not only does Finlay still work with Svensson, a leading scientist in the rarefied world of nuclear physics, but he also began his doctorate in the fall armed with U of G's most prestigious student award.

Finlay will use the Brock Scholarship — worth up to \$120,000, or \$30,000 a year for four years — to pursue his studies of how the universe works. The scholarship is given to a first-year PhD student considered to be outstanding in a field of study, in research work and in the ability to lead other students in their own PhD programs.

The award is funded from a \$1-million endowment donated to U of G by Bill and Anne Brock. Bill Brock is a 1958 graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College and a former chair of Board of Governors and the Board of Trustees.

Finlay — an unassuming 25-year-old who spends his downtime strumming classic rock tunes and swapping insights about the world with his partner, an English-lit major, at home in Toronto — says the award "encourages us to keep doing what we're doing. It says my work is important and recognized."

It turns out that downtime, like time itself, is a relative thing for a particle physicist. Having spent three weeks in October glued to a detector in British Columbia, Finlay returned to Vancouver for a week in December for more round-the-clock observations of particle interactions. Like other scientists from around the world booking time at TRIUMF, Canada's national laboratory for nuclear and particle physics, he makes full use of his experimental window. That means 16-hour days, seven days a week — not much time for gazing at the mountains or the ocean.

"Data are the most important thing," says Finlay, explaining that he needs to monitor his experiments to forestall or fix any mishaps.

Perhaps three years before he'll even collect his doctorate, he has become one of the regulars clocking in at TRIUMF, located at the University of British Columbia. It's a facility he's seen take shape during the past six years as a student researcher and frequent visitor from Guelph.

Run by a consortium of universities — U of G is an associate member — TRIUMF is a subatomic research facility. Its cyclotron breaks apart atoms and sends charged particles whizzing at high energy along paths guided by giant magnets. Controlled collisions produce sprays of other, often short-lived, particles. Scientists monitoring detectors set up along the facility's beam lines examine all that activity to learn more about the interactions of these particles.

That information may help researchers like Finlay learn not just about these bits of matter but also about the forces and elements that shape them and everything else you can think of. The goal is to figure out the workings of the universe and its constituent parts from stars to people. Glancing outside the ground-floor windows of the University Centre into Branton Plaza and beyond to his home base in the MacNaughton Building, he says: "We're all made out of nuclei. You, me, the table, plants, were all made in stars at some point. How did that happen and where did it come from?"

Sounds not a little esoteric — something Finlay readily acknowledges. Describing a common reaction to his studies from his family at home in Whitby, he says: "I'm used to the glazed look appearing in their eyes." To their most-asked question —

how will this work apply? — he delivers a candid, if unsatisfying, answer: "I don't know, because we're doing fundamental research. We're doing fundamental investigations into matter and the universe."

It's not going to be easy learning how the universe works, he says. "No matter how much better we get at probing, there's always a new challenge. That's essentially one of the beauties of the field — there's no end in sight."

That kind of open-ended inquiry suits Finlay: "If I don't understand it, I like it that much more."

Describing the Vancouver-based lab itself is a bit easier. "It's like your dad's workshop in the garage as a kid, with crazy tools you never heard of."

Besides that cyclotron and those magnets to accelerate and channel the particles, the facility contains sophisticated instruments used to monitor high-energy collisions and their aftermath.

One key detector still being built is the TIGRESS (TRIUMF-ISAC gamma ray escape suppressed spectrometer) array, destined to be the most advanced instrument of its kind. It's being built by an international group of scientists led by Svensson. Work on the multi-million-dollar instrument began in 2003 and is scheduled to be completed by 2009.

Midway through the project in 2006, scientists carried out their first experiments on the new equipment, housed in TRIUMF's Isotope Separator and Accelerator Complex (ISAC). (Finlay acknowledges that his field is littered with almost as many high-energy acronyms as nuclear particles.) Also in 2006, TRIUMF commissioned a new superconducting linear accelerator for studying exotic atoms.

Finlay observes all the action on computer monitors in the control room.

"I always make the analogy to music — it's like a big mixing desk in a music studio," says the amateur guitarist and classic rock fan whose favourites include such '70s icons as Genesis,

Yes and King Crimson. "It seems like a huge, incomprehensible mess at first."

He began visiting TRIUMF through a research job with Svensson during his first undergrad summer. Then and in subsequent years, Finlay ran simulations and analyzed data that helped in building instruments and refining techniques that he now uses for his own research experiments. When it's fully up and running, TIGRESS will incorporate some of his earlier summer student work. "I coded the geometry of the TIGRESS array for simulations for optimizing experiments."

Svensson says his student has spent hours poring over numbers to develop exacting specifications for the instrument's components. "We have improved the performance of the spectrometer. Every experiment we do will be better because of him."

Working under the hood like that has also helped guide Finlay's career plans. "I got a good feeling of what it's like to be a scientist. This really gave me good insight into the life of a physicist." Ticking off such skills as problem solving, hands-on activity and computer smarts, he says: "It brings in all the things I'm good at and enjoy. You get the full spectrum."

He's also had a chance to observe other scientists in action, including his own supervisor.

"Carl embodies what a scientist is all about. He's driven by the search for knowledge and truth, and that's what's important. He's a physicist — he wants to understand the world."

Acknowledging some reflected glory from his student's award, Svensson says: "I'm happy for Paul. It's good to have students who are the very best recognized for being so."

Lauding Finlay for his self-motivation, independence and creativity, he adds that the young scientist's techniques for precisely monitoring a particular nuclear decay process — completed on another TRIUMF instrument for his master's thesis — will mean a tenfold improvement in subsequent measurements of nuclear forces.

Finlay served as a co-spokesperson along with a former post-doc for that particular experiment. "I don't know of any other example of a master's student being a spokesperson for an experiment at TRIUMF," says Svensson.

Finlay, who defended his master's thesis last summer, has co-authored more than 20 research papers, including one for which he was lead author. (That paper was written with Geoff Grinyer, another award-winning student and longtime collaborator who defended his own PhD this fall. Both have belonged to Guelph's Nuclear Physics Group, run by Svensson and Prof. Paul Garrett.) Finlay has also submitted another first-author paper in his research field of super-loud beta decay.

For his doctorate, he's beginning a new collaboration studying elements — how they were formed, their relative amounts and distribution in the universe — with Dipa Bandyopadhyay, a former post-doc now working at TRIUMF. Their work is expected to help in understanding how elements are cooked up in stars and dispersed through supernova explosions.

Finlay is also looking forward to TRIUMF's role in a new global ATLAS project to hunt down the elusive Higgs boson, a particle believed to be essential in verifying masses of subatomic particles. Using a new supercomputer, TRIUMF scientists will help analyze data from the world's largest particle collider being built in Europe.

It was a high school physics teacher who turned him onto the subject. "That was probably the best thing that happened to me," says Finlay, who remembers thinking: "This is it — this is what I've been looking for."

He came to Guelph initially to study mathematical physics. He wanted to become a theorist but discovered he liked working with electronics, too. "I thought theory was the way to do science, but theory and experiment are symbiotic." Nuclear physics allows him to do both. "You can't do experiments without understanding the theory. I'm an experimentalist, but I have to have the theory background."



PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE



# Game for Economics

*New prof uses game theory to better understand negotiating in political institutions such as Parliament*

BY TERESA PITMAN

**G**AME THEORY and political institutions? For those of us who don't know much about economics, this may conjure up images of Prime Minister Stephen Harper and NDP leader Jack Layton furiously waving their Xbox controllers around as they battle each other through another level of *Zelda* to determine how much money goes for health care. Or maybe we'll get to see Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty challenge Conservative leader John Tory to a decisive arm-wrestling match.

In economics professor Johanna Goertz's version, there are no controllers or heroic characters darting across the TV screen, no straining muscles or other forms of competition. Game theory, it turns out, is a way of looking at interactions between people, such as negotiations.

"I'm trying to build models to help us understand the bargaining and negotiating that go on in political institutions such as Parliament," she says.

"To understand it better, we use game theory, which is a mathematical approach that helps us analyze the interactions between people if the rules are set down in a particular way."

Still not clear? Here's her example: Imagine you have a couple who can't talk to each other but do like to spend time together. One likes the ballet; the other likes to attend football games. Either way, they'd prefer to go together rather than alone, but because they can't talk to each other, they have to independently decide where they're going to go.

"If either one knew what the other was going to do, that would influence their decision," says Goertz. "But the math is based on them not knowing and having to make a decision that will give the best odds for a good outcome."

That's the kind of "game" that



Improving the political process is part of Prof. Johanna Goertz's interest.  
PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

game theory can analyze. Her research has been developing a model to predict what can happen in government negotiating—where political representatives are trying to persuade other representatives to vote for certain policies and budget allocations.

A previous study had developed a model that seemed to do a good job of predicting outcomes when there was just one issue to be negotiated

and voted on. Goertz took this further—and a step closer to real life—by considering a situation where several issues are to be voted on.

"In this situation, people could say: 'OK, I'll go along with you on this if you go along with me on that.'"

Using game theory modelling, she hopes to see if the previous model can be revised to include more than one issue, yet still provide

reliable predictions.

"It's challenging to be trying to model human behaviour in a mathematical way," she admits, "but it has practical uses. One of the things we see is that the rules of the game—the ways in which things are done—influence the outcome. So if the model shows that with these particular rules we will tend to get an outcome we don't really want—for example, because one person ends up with too much power—then we can look for other rules that will make the political process better."

Born in Bonn, Germany, Goertz started her master's degree there, then headed to Ohio State University to complete her master's and PhD. Before arriving at U of G last summer, she spent a year in Belgium at the Centre of Operations Research and Econometrics.

Coming to Guelph has meant a big transition for her because she had done no teaching previously.

"And there I was with more than 300 students in my first semester. But I've found I really like teaching, especially when the students participate and interact with me."

She also likes having the opportunity to teach students who aren't economics majors.

"I like the material, and I think it's interesting and important. So this is my chance to share the essence of what I know with people who might otherwise never deal with it, and to help them see how it interacts with psychology, political science, even engineering."

Besides taking on the new challenges of teaching, Goertz hopes to get involved in new activities in the Guelph community.

"When you come to a new place, you don't want to just do what you've done before. I haven't been here long, so I'm looking at the possibilities. I like sports and biking, but now that I'm here, I'm hoping to try some new things—skiing, hiking and horseback riding."

## SAYING 'THANKS' ISN'T QUITE ENOUGH

I wish to thank members of the University community for their personal and professional support during my years at U of G. What a privilege and honour it has been to work with you on many and varied projects.

At a busy time of year, it was rewarding to see so many people at the retirement event given on my behalf, where I had the opportunity to say goodbye in person. It is worth noting that your generous donations provided almost \$800 for Cara's Hope Maternity Home, where I will be serving as chaplain. Saying "thanks" isn't quite enough.

Karen Kovats

## RETIREMENT PARTY, GIFT APPRECIATED

My heartfelt thanks to all those who attended my retirement party, who sent cards, gifts and even regrets. And thanks to the Graduate Program Services staff who took time out from their very busy schedule to organize a successful party. The Cuisinart Stand Mixer—the gift from the community—is exquisite, and I loved it on first sight.

I have thoroughly enjoyed working at the University, with its very caring and loyal staff. I wish you all the best, lots of love and God's blessing.

Violet Walker

## DONATIONS SUPPORT GUELPH FOOD BANK

I want to thank everyone for their kind donations to my "tip jars" and to those who lent their voices during the holiday music playing Dec. 4 in the University Centre courtyard. More than \$600 was raised for the Guelph Food Bank.

Special thanks to Rick Henderson for his help in delivering the keyboard, Sam Bajjal for the great set-up job and Octaves Music for lending me the keyboard for the day.

Special Const. Jim Armstrong  
Campus Community Police

# Equipment Puts OVC at Forefront of Vet Imaging

*Continued from page 1*

the needs of equine CT patients. A new hydraulic equine patient table will be MRI- and CT-compatible and more user-friendly than the existing table, says Blair.

The CT scanner area will have two entrances—one for large animals and one for small—and will include a control room, conference

room and lead-shielded viewing area.

"This will allow students to easily and safely observe procedures that they otherwise might not be able to see," says project co-ordinator Prof. Stephanie Nykamp, a board-certified radiologist in the Department of Clinical Studies.

"Having both CT and MRI puts us at the forefront of veterinary imaging in North America," she says. "It certainly opens up a lot of doors in terms of research, teaching and service to our clients."

Upgrades have already been completed to bring the hospital's nuclear scintigraphy equipment into the digital age, and the entire project coincides with implementation of a complete Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS).

Work in the small-animal clinic is proceeding in phases to ensure that the radiology service continues to operate smoothly during construction and the installation of new equipment, says Nykamp.

"We've planned it so that everyone will feel the pinch of the renovation as little as possible."

The first phase involves making existing space more functional and efficient by removing some walls to create new offices, a common work area and workstations. The new radiology area will be fully digital as the hospital makes the transition to "filmless" operations. (The hospital will retain its X-ray film capabilities, but surplus darkroom space will be modified for other uses).

Phase 2 requires upgrades to the main X-ray suite to allow installation of the new machine. Ongoing work in 2008 involves the final steps required for integrating PACS and a new hospital information system that will be coming on stream in the near future.

Construction of the large-animal

isolation hospital is part of infrastructure improvements at OVC funded by the federal and provincial governments, U of G and private and corporate donations.

The 9,000-square-foot facility will include 12 stalls, a treatment room, diagnostic equipment, video monitoring, a nursing station and biohazard containment equipment. Each stall will have dual access—with interior and exterior doors—a major improvement in terms of efficiency and working conditions for staff and clinicians, says Don Trout, head of the large-animal clinic.

"From our clients' perspective, we are confident they'll see the benefits of enhancing our ability to completely separate infectious animals from the rest of our patients," he says.



**Campus Drug Mart**

35 HARVARD ROAD  
GUELPH, ON  
N1G 3A2

**ISSAC GERGS**  
Pharmacy Manager

Tel: (519) 823-5511  
Fax: (519) 823-2779



# Cell Therapy Offers Hope, Advances Science

OVC researchers provide stem cell therapy to put injured horses on track to recovery

BY BARRY GUNN

**C**LINICIANS AND RESEARCHERS at the Ontario Veterinary College have teamed up to offer stem cell therapy to repair injured tendons and ligaments in horses.

The move gives clients a new treatment option for their animals and will allow OVC researchers to add scientific rigour to the anecdotal evidence that suggests cell-based therapies speed healing of injured or damaged tissues, says Prof. Antonio Cruz, Clinical Studies.

"It is cutting-edge technology," says Cruz, "and we are uniquely equipped to offer all components of the service under one roof — from diagnostics to cell collection and culturing to treatment and followup. But there is still a lot to learn."

An orthopedic surgeon with OVC's large-animal clinic, he aims to attract the caseload that will contribute clinical data to the knowledge gained from laboratory research being conducted by Prof. Dean Betts and PhD candidate Thomas Koch, Biomedical Sciences.

"This is the next progression of the work we've already been doing," says Koch, a veterinarian whose research to date has focused on the potential for treating damaged cartilage using stem cells taken from the um-



Profs. Antonio Cruz and Heather Chalmers monitor their progress on an ultrasound machine as Cruz injects a stem cell solution into Santiago's injured tendon.

PHOTO BY BARRY GUNN

bilical cord blood of foals.

"Obviously, you don't have access to cord blood for most horses most of the time. But there are other sources."

Bone marrow, for instance, as was the case recently with Santiago, a 13-year-old chestnut gelding with a lame front leg and the first to be

treated with stem cells at OVC.

Santiago was referred to Guelph in the fall and diagnosed with suspensory desmitis — inflammation of the branch of the suspensory ligament. In early November, Cruz's team extracted bone marrow aspirate from the horse's sternum.

In the lab, Koch and Betts took

the aspirate and separated the nucleated cells from red blood cells. They then cultured a fraction of the available cells in plastic flasks containing a special medium (where the stem cells multiply and adhere to the plastic). The cells were then purified and put into other culture flasks. Initially, only about one in 35,000 cells

showed stem cell characteristics, says Koch.

Sixteen days after harvesting, the team had 16 million cells that were resuspended in the original bone marrow supernatant and injected into the swollen fetlock of Santiago's left front leg.

If the horse's condition improves, there's no way of knowing at this point whether it was the stem cells that made the difference, the growth factors in the supernatant or simply time and rest or a combination of the above, says Betts. But hospital cases will add support to the scientific work to be done in the lab and in future clinical trials, he says.

"We're doing this because of promising results elsewhere and the fact that the underlying rationale makes sense, although it's not evidence-based in a strict scientific sense."

The procedure offers hope to people like Santiago's owner, Heather Baker-Sullivan of Caledon, Ont.

"He's my baby," says Baker-Sullivan, who rode Santiago, a Trakehner, in local and regional dressage shows and on the Trillium circuit before the injury occurred. "We've had him for 10 years. He's part of the family, and I wanted to do the best for him."

## Becoming Victor Davis

U of G plays major supporting role in TV movie about controversial Olympic swimmer

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**M**ARK LUTZ SPENT MOST of his childhood and teen years training and competing in swimming pools, including his years as a Gryphon varsity athlete. But the Guelph political science graduate — now a Los Angeles actor and writer — says he reached his top form only years after he left the pool, when he became Victor Davis.

Lutz resumed training to prepare for the title role in a CBC-TV movie aired last weekend about Davis, a controversial Olympic gold medalist and Guelph native who died in 1989 after being struck by a hit-and-run driver. The two-hour movie, called *Victor: His Name, His Mission*, was written by Lutz and included U of G athletes in key swimmer roles.

"A lot of University of Guelph people had a chance to tell Victor's story to Canada and the rest of the world," says Alan Fairweather, supervisor of aquatics, recreation, community service and camps in Guelph's Department of Athletics.

The former varsity swim coach was invited to choreograph the movie's three main competition scenes. He also recruited current Gryphons and alumni to perform in the pool as Davis's contemporaries. Besides casting about 30 swimming extras — half of them associated with U of G — Fairweather effectively coached the athletes during filming of the swimming scenes at

Toronto-area pools during the summer of 2006.

Besides Lutz himself, Gryphon alumni in the biopic include Sean Sepulis, Glen Oomen, Jeff Sumner, Dan Lindquist, Jeremy Warner and Stephanie Hatt. Current swimming Gryphons Scott Van Doormaal, Amanda Budd, Kristin Cloutier and Jon Pilon also appear.

Recalling his work on the movie, Fairweather says: "It wasn't long before I realized this was not a 'swimming movie.' This was a movie about a guy who had trials and tribulations, who worked through them and became the best swimmer in the world and then tragically died. I think people will see him in a different light."

A world-record holder in the 200-metre breaststroke, Davis won a gold medal at the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics along with silver in the 100-metre breaststroke and 4x100-metre medley relay. He retired after winning a silver medal with the relay team at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Known for his fierce competitiveness and single-mindedness in the pool, he was criticized for occasional outbursts. At the 1982 Commonwealth Games, he kicked over a deck chair when his relay team was belatedly disqualified after a gold-medal swim.

Lutz says he wrote the movie's screenplay to offer a more rounded picture of the swimmer than the

"bad boy" image sometimes portrayed in the media.

"Before Ben Johnson, he was probably the most vilified athlete going," says Lutz, who met Davis once shortly after the 1984 Olympics. He remembers the swimmer's "A-list" magnetism that seemed to fill the room.

"He never lacked for confidence," says Fairweather, who never coached Davis but had known him since his early teens. "People who didn't know him well thought he was incredibly brash."

Lutz started competitive swimming at age six. Coached as a Gryphon by Fairweather, he made the Olympic trials in 1988 but gave up the sport after suffering chronic shoulder injuries and undergoing surgery twice.

After graduating from Guelph in 1991, he took up acting in Toronto and moved to Los Angeles about seven years ago. He's appeared in numerous productions, including the TV shows *ER* and *Friends*.

All along, he'd harboured thoughts of writing and producing. "They say write what you know, and after staring at the bottom of a pool, waterlogged, for 17 years, I knew it was a pretty good bet I could write something about swimming."

He'd initially envisioned the Davis story as a version of *Rocky* in the pool." But it quickly became more than that, especially after Lutz met

with Victor's dad, Mel, in 2002 to get his OK for the movie.

"F. Scott Fitzgerald said, 'Show me a hero and I will write you a tragedy' — I think that's Victor's story in a nutshell," says Lutz, who spent about two years doing research for the project.

Determined to star in the movie, he underwent therapy on his shoulder and set himself a rigorous training and diet regimen. He spent at least three hours a day in the pool and the weight room getting into shape to play the Olympian. "I became Victor, but it was a lot of hard work."

Lutz has written and starred in another short film due soon for release. He's also pitching a pilot for another show and hopes to develop a biopic about another former Canadian sports figure.

He credits his former varsity coach for lining up swimmers for the movie and making sure the racing scenes looked right on camera.

"I thought they would use stock footage of the Olympics," says Fairweather. But he learned the production team wanted real swimmers in the pool. That meant looking up two-decade-old stats for Davis's races.

"I got all the split times from the 1982 Commonwealth Games, the 1982 world championships and the 1984 Olympics. Then I had to get athletes who could do those splits."

Among current Gryphons, he'd hoped to cast Laura Kendall, a distance freestyle specialist who will attend her second Olympic trials this spring in Montreal. Kendall is a niece of Adair Hannah, partner of Mel Davis; she was only two when Victor died.

Kendall had to turn down the role, but the third-year zoology student says the movie helps portray Davis as a passionate Canadian sports hero. "It's nice to see people recognizing what he did for Canadian swimming."

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 821-7800  
Fax (519) 821-7810



## OMAFRA Partnership Spinoffs Have Big Economic Impact

Continued from page 1

expenditures on goods and services;

- indirect impacts, including the various interactions with other businesses that supply necessary materials and services; and
- associated/inferred impacts such as spinoff activities and research generated by the partnership.

The biggest economic impact comes in the form of spinoff activities such as product innovation and commercialization. They're estimated to be worth \$929 million annually.

"The faculty, staff and students engaged in the partnership should be proud of how their efforts are making a difference," says Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (re-

search). "It's a prime example of how universities and governments can work together to create capacity that has amazing economic benefits."

The report also highlights some of the many activities the partnership supports that are having a positive effect on the lives of Ontarians, such as improved environmental, health and public policies. Although disease and outbreak prevention cannot be effectively quantified in traditional economic impact analysis, prevention does have "significant economic benefits," the report says.

To read the complete report, visit the U of G website and search for "Deloitte and Touche."

## Screening Test for Ovarian Cancer Next Step for Researchers

Continued from page 1

The research team made this discovery after developing a way of injecting cancer cells directly onto the surface of the ovaries in mice. In previous studies, researchers had simply injected the cancer cells into the abdominal cavity of mice, which Petrik says is not a true representation of the disease.

"The interaction between the tumour cells and the ovary is a very important component of the progression of the disease."

They found that when the cancer cells were placed on the ovary, they became more aggressive than the cancer cells injected into the abdominal cavity. And the change in protein expressed as a result of the interaction between the cancer cells and the ovary appeared to be causing the cells to multiply more rapidly, says Petrik.

"Now that we know these cells have a unique signature and express

different proteins once they react with the ovary, we can begin to develop an early-detection test to look for these markers."

The next step is developing a screening test, which he says could be as simple as a blood test.

Petrik and Moorehead received \$500,000 from the Ontario Institute for Cancer Research in 2005 to study ovarian cancer. Besides discovering a biomarker for ovarian cancer, the duo is researching a possible treatment that can be used in combination with early detection. It involves developing anti-angiogenic drugs that can cut off the blood supply to the tumour.

"As tumours develop, they have to recruit a blood supply," says Petrik. "We're looking at molecules that inhibit the formation of new blood cells, which will inhibit the development of the tumour."

### ALI GOLFETTO

Fourth-year student in arts and science

Eighteen months ago, Ali Golfetto received an e-mail that sparked her interest and involvement in an organization that's become an important part of her life. It was a message about Dignitas International, a humanitarian group that provides aid to children, youth and families affected by HIV/AIDS in the developing world. The e-mail mentioned that a U of G chapter was starting and was looking for members. Golfetto answered the call and is now president of the campus chapter. "It's been great and very rewarding," she says. "I love it."

She particularly likes the organization's focus on community-based care and sustainability.

"Dignitas involves the local people in helping to care for themselves. It displays such respect for human dignity, and that's what I really like about it."

On Jan. 24, she and other group members will participate in the Race for Dignity, a 14-hour stationary-bike marathon. The U of G fundraiser runs from 9 a.m. to 11 p.m. in the University Centre courtyard. To learn more about the event, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~dignitas](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~dignitas) or send e-mail to [dignitas@uoguelph.ca](mailto:dignitas@uoguelph.ca).

Golfetto has also been involved in U of G's peer helper program for the past two years. Besides supporting a variety of initiatives across campus, peer helpers meet regularly with one another as a unit, she says, adding that the program has taught her a lot about running meetings, taking minutes and communicating better with people.

"I've always been pretty shy, so this has been helpful."



Ali Golfetto

### ROBIN RUDA

Financial clerk in Hospitality Services, joined U of G in 1990

Robin Ruda rang in the new year eight hours ahead of Guelph friends and colleagues from a beach in Mombasa, Kenya. Ruda, along with her husband, Farouk, and their children, Ashah, 15, Shelina, 12, and Ahmed, 8, spent three weeks in Kenya visiting Farouk's sister and her family in Nairobi.

"It was so relaxing," says Ruda. "Despite the political unrest, I'd go back in a heartbeat. It was fabulous."

One of her favourite activities there was going on sa-



Robin Ruda

fari. "The wildlife was breathtaking, and the scenery was amazing."

Back home in Canada, she enjoys the theatre and goes as often as she can. Her all-time favourite show is *Ragtime*, and she'd love to see a production on Broadway one day. "It's on my lifetime to-do list."

She also likes to relax with a book and is currently reading Mitch Albom's *Five People You Meet in Heaven*, the story of an elderly amusement park worker who dies saving a young girl's life. "When he arrives in heaven, he meets five people who were positively affected by him during his life. It's a beautiful story."

In her own life, Ruda is also helping to positively affect others. For the past five years, she's been on the steering committee for U of G's United Way campaign.

"I like being involved in this because it's local. The United Way supports many organizations in Guelph and touches the lives of thousands in our community. I love being a part of that."

### ED MCBEAN

Faculty member in the School of Engineering since 2003

For Prof. Ed McBean, celebrating the holiday season wasn't complete without enjoying a few glasses of homemade wine and beer. He was introduced to wine-making 30 years ago by his brother-in-law and has been doing it ever since.

"I know lots about chemistry and biology and I love wine, so I thought this was a natural outgrowth," says McBean, who makes about 30 gallons each year.

He says light, tannin, temperature and even vibrations can affect the way a product turns out.

"You've also got to be fastidious about cleaning. That's a big deal. If you follow the rules, it'll turn out great."

He also brews his own beer and once placed fourth in a provincial competition.

"Knowing the nature of biological processes and the need for pH and so on, I find it comes easy to me," he says.

McBean is also an avid traveller who's been to more than 60 countries. In November, he visited Cambodia and Thailand, where he celebrated Loy Kratong, an annual Thai festival.

"The most interesting thing is that they have these plastic bags a metre in diameter. There's a metal ring in the bottom that helps it keep its shape, and you light a candle in the middle. The flame heats up a gas in the bag, and this causes the bag to float in the sky as a hot-air balloon. You look up in the sky and there are probably 1,000 of them. It's the neatest thing."



Ed McBean



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Jan. 18 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to [r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56039.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

### At Guelph

## Publication Schedule

Publication Date	Deadline
Jan. 30	Jan. 22
Feb. 13	Feb. 5
Feb. 27	Feb. 19
March 12	March 4
March 26	March 18
April 9	April 1
April 23	April 15



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR RENT

Three-bedroom bungalow in Exhibition Park area on quiet street, appliances, finished rec room, storage, close to schools, parks and bus, \$1,250 a month plus utilities, 519-826-9928.

One-bedroom basement apartment, 15-minute walk to downtown, own entrance, parking, shared laundry, furnished or unfurnished, cable and Internet, \$600 a month inclusive, 519-823-8094.

Three-bedroom renovated century farmhouse in Belwood, 25 minutes from campus, large kitchen, family room, 1½ baths, available early February, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, references required, 519-843-3720 after 6 p.m.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fmoll@rogers.com.

## FOR SALE

Custom-built trade show/display furniture in the Japanese shoji style, washable fibreglass and maple construction, floor size eight by 10 feet, eight feet high with wraparound

shelving, photos available, Michelle, Ext. 53885 or mimemill@uoguelph.ca.

Ikea furniture: loft bed with double mattress and desk underneath, six-drawer white pine chest, computer desk, Robin, rbegin@uoguelph.ca.

Handcrafted pens and pencils, wooden and acrylic, 519-821-8812.

Nine-piece dining room suite, maple wood veneer, good condition, 519-843-2426.

Pair of tickets for *African Footprint* Feb. 9 at 8 p.m. at the Sony Centre, centre orchestra seats, Row E, 519-824-8591 or csimon@uoguelph.ca.

Duke Brown bicast leather sofa; black and yellow Fox dirt biking gear: knee/elbow pads, chest protector, jersey, pants, adult size small; Fox boots, size 6; two Fox helmets, Khatera, 519-826-4199 or khatera@ontario.ca.

Antique mahogany Duncan Phyfe dining table with four chairs, large square glass coffee table with solid brass legs, Ext. 54337, 519-836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Drop-leaf maple table, seats four; two maple chairs, 519-221-7865.

2000 Polaris 700 snowmobile, well-maintained, photos available, best offer, 519-338-3653 or sknight@uoguelph.ca.

## WANTED

Elliptical trainer, minimum 18-inch stride length, 519-824-8591 or csimon@uoguelph.ca.

Student to shovel snow in south-end driveway after heavy snowfall, Angie, 519-836-4524 evenings.

## AVAILABLE

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 519-836-8086 or cdemmers@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service available to U of G staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees. Submit items to l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca.

### To Truly Know and Understand Animals

Get to know things from the animal's perspective.

**Claudia Hehr,**  
Animal Communications  
Specialist, Author,  
Speaker, Coach.

Private consultations, tele-classes,  
seminars, group discounts.  
[www.claudiahehr.com](http://www.claudiahehr.com)  
Tel.: 705-434-4679



### Your local travel agency.

We guarantee you the best personalized services  
And most economical prices.  
We're just a phone call away.

519-824-6001 / 1-800-795-4995 / E-mail - [ctravel@mgl.ca](mailto:ctravel@mgl.ca)  
[www.consumertravelcenter.ca](http://www.consumertravelcenter.ca)  
255 Speedvale Ave. W., Guelph, ON N1H 1C5

### Pianos, books, lessons & more! 519.836.8492



218-A Victoria Rd. S.  
Guelph, Ont.  
N1E 5R1  
fax: 519.836.9474

[www.theoctavemc.com](http://www.theoctavemc.com)



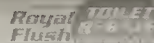
### Campus Hardware Limited

1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag

### Guelph's widest selection of Royal Flush approved toilets.

Great brands including Kohler,  
American Standard, Toto,  
Duravit, Mansfield.

Excellent collection of bathroom faucets by  
Kohler, American Standard, Price Pfister.



55 Dawson Road, Guelph  
519-821-5744

## YOUR PREFERRED

### Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM



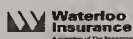
Call today for a no-obligation quote



Toll Free  
1-800-482-0822  
Local  
519-836-5700

Or visit our website at  
[www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)

Save Up To 50%  
In Insurance Product Discounts  
*plus*  
Your Group Discount!



Visit us at [www.economicalinsurance.com](http://www.economicalinsurance.com)

## D & D GRANITEWORX INC.

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
[graniteworx@bellnet.ca](mailto:graniteworx@bellnet.ca)

### CARPET & FURNITURE CLEANING

Do you suffer from allergies?

- Reduce the level of bacteria, yeast and mould micro-organisms in carpeting
- Reduce the level of bacteria on upholstered furniture



Nobody Cleans Better Than Steamatic!

### AIR DUCT CLEANING

Breathe cleaner air

- Remove microscopic dust mites
- Remove mildew, mould and bacteria in air contaminants
- Lower energy costs

Call Us 519-836-7340



Valerie Poulton



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

Naturalist Zoe Fitzgerald leads owl prowls Feb. 1 and 2 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Cost is \$12 for adults or \$30 for a family of four. Deadline for registration and payment is Jan. 18. Call Ext. 52358.

Arboretum gardener Lenore Ross leads daylong workshops on growing perennials from seed Feb. 14 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are due Jan. 31.

## CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series kicks off the winter semester with the Donné Roberts band Jan. 24. On Jan. 31, the Middlesex Singers present "The Art of the Countertenor." Concerts start at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

## LECTURE

The TransCanada Institute presents Sérgio Luiz Bellei of the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil, discussing "Hypertext, Information Processing and Literary Writing" Jan. 16 at 4:30 p.m. at 9 University Ave. E.

## NOTICES

An open meditation group for beginners or practitioners runs Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. in UC 004. The group is led by Lucy Reid of the Multi-Faith Resource Team and Prof. Karl Hennig, Psychology. Drop-ins are welcome.

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering a five-session better sleep program Fridays at noon in UC 441, beginning Jan. 18. The clinic is also running 12-session programs on relaxation and stress management skills starting Jan. 22. Three times are available: noon in UC 334, 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1691 and 8 p.m. in UC 335. A four-session relaxation "booster"

class for former participants begins Jan. 23 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 335. For more information, pick up a pamphlet at the Information Desk on UC Level 1, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

The Department of Marketing and Consumer Studies is hosting a graduate program information night Jan. 28 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at PJ's in the Atrium. Students interested in attending can RSVP to [lecauley@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lecauley@uoguelph.ca).

The newly founded Canadian International Council, a non-partisan nationwide institution established to strengthen Canada's role in international affairs, is calling for applications for its fellowship program, which is open to academics and public-policy professionals. Application deadline is Jan. 30. Visit [www.canadianinternationalcouncil.org](http://www.canadianinternationalcouncil.org).

## SEMINARS

"Incentive Learning: The Link Between Dopamine and Schizophrenia" is the focus of Richard Beninger of Queen's University in the Department of Psychology's neuroscience and applied cognitive science seminar Jan. 16 at 3:30 p.m. in Rozanski 105.

The Department of Pathobiology seminar series presents PhD candidate Priti Goswami explaining "Enterotoxigenic *Escherichia coli* O149: Its Detection and the Effect of Plasmid pTENT2 on Severity of Post Weaning Diarrhea" Jan. 18 at 11 a.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

The Rural History Roundtable organized through the Canada Research Chair in Rural History features Prof. Susan Nance, History, discussing "A Star Is Born to Buck: On the Development of Rodeo Bulls in the 1990s" Jan. 18. On Jan. 25, Claiton Marcio da Silva of the Universidade Federal do Tocantins and the Casa de Oswaldo Cruz in Rio de Janeiro, considers "Agriculture and International Co-operation: Nelson Rockefeller and the Work of the

American International Association for Social and Economic Development in Brazil (1948-1962)." The talks begin at 2:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 2020.

The plant biology group in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology is hosting a seminar series on plant-related research. Discussion will focus on "The Chimeric Cyclic Nucleotide-Gated Ion Channel ATCNGC11/23: Its Role in Programmed Cell Death and Application for Structure-Function Analysis" Jan. 21 with Keiko Yoshioka of the University of Toronto and on "Functional Characterization of Indeterminant Domain Transcription Factors in *Arabidopsis* Development" Jan. 28 with post-doctoral researcher Mimi Tanimoto. The seminars are at 3:30 p.m. in science complex 2315.

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology seminar series presents Paul Fraser of the University of Toronto Jan. 23 at 4 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

"Idealization and Modelling" is the focus of Robert Batterman of the University of Western Ontario in the Department of Physics seminar series Jan. 29 at 4 p.m. in science complex 1511.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Full details and a registration link for Teaching Support Services programs can be found on the TSS website at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

TSS's professional development series for teaching assistants continues Jan. 18 with "Successful Science Labs" and Jan. 22 with "Facilitating Effective Online Discussions." A peer microteaching session for TAs is slated for Jan. 28.

Peter Wolf of TSS and Prof. Warren Stiver, Engineering, will facilitate an open discussion to share experiences, resources and expertise on capstone experiences Jan. 24.

The ongoing discussion group "Teaching on the Edge" meets Jan. 25 to share teaching strategies, resources and new approaches to teaching and learning. Discussions continue every other Friday, and new participants are welcome at any session.

On Jan. 28, David DiBattista, a 3M Teaching Fellow from Brock University, facilitates a session on "Getting the Most Out of Multiple-Choice Questions."

Peter Saunders of Oregon State University leads an online seminar on "Using Collaborative Teams in and Out of Class" Jan. 30.

Instructors who have questions about their online Blackboard courses can call Ext. 52530 Monday to Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or drop into one of the Blackboard clinics held Wednesdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 2:30 to 4 p.m.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Theodore Noseworthy, Marketing and Consumer Studies, is Jan. 16 at 2:30 p.m. in Macdonald Institute 106. The thesis is "The Bambi Effect: The Moderating Role of Thematic Positioning on Congruity-Based Product Judgment." The adviser is Prof. Towhidul Islam.

The final examination of Payvand Parvizi, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is Jan. 24 at 9:30 a.m. in Pathobiology 2106 and 1106. The thesis is "Cytokine Gene Expression in CD4+ and CD8+ T Cell Subsets of Chickens Infected With Marek's Disease Virus." The adviser is Prof. Shayam Sharif.

The final examination of PhD candidate Jesse Stewart, English and Theatre Studies, is Jan. 31 at noon at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. The thesis is "Call and Recall: Hybridity, Mobility and Dialogue Between Jazz and Hip-Hop Culture." The adviser is Prof. Ajay Heble.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Wellington branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets Jan. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at 122 Harris St. Members will present their genealogical research triumphs and problems.

The Edward Johnson Music Foundation hosts its annual fundraising wine gala and auction — "Sip, Savour and Sing" — Feb. 2 at 6 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For ticket information, call 519-763-3000 or visit [www.riverrun.ca](http://www.riverrun.ca).

A Chinese New Year Festival runs Feb. 2 from 2 to 6 p.m. at the First Christian Reformed Church, 278 Water St. The afternoon will include lion dancing, fashion shows, kung fu demonstrations, displays, crafts and Chinese tea tasting.

McCrae House is hosting a free lecture series on the First World War this winter. It kicks off Jan. 24 at 7:30 p.m. with Andrew Iarocci of the Canadian War Museum discussing "The Hundred Days: Ordinary Soldiers in the 1918 Victory Offensives."

The Sexual Assault Centre of Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis presents a free workshop on emotional bullying Jan. 25 at 1 p.m. To register, call 519-823-5806.

Guelph Civic Museum marks Robbie Burns Day Jan. 20 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. The afternoon will feature Scottish music and dancing, displays and demonstrations, haggis and a 2 p.m. lecture on "St. Andrew's Societies in Canada" by U of G Scottish studies PhD student Andrew Hinson.

The Kiwanis Music Festival presents "Teachers in Concert" Jan. 25 at 7:30 p.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. Local music teachers scheduled to perform include tenors Glyn Evans and Christopher Fischer, saxophonist Shelly Hanson-Terry and singer-songwriter Matty Cooper. For more information, visit [www.guelphkiwanis.org/events.htm](http://www.guelphkiwanis.org/events.htm).

# Economist to Speak at Organic Conference

Boom, Bust and Echo author urges organic industry to 'know thyself'

**D**AVID FOOT, author of the bestselling book *Boom, Bust and Echo*, will speak Jan. 26 at 9 a.m. in Rozanski Hall as part of the 27th annual Guelph Organic Conference.

The renowned Canadian economist will discuss "Organics, Demographics and Lifestyle-Driven Markets," offering his insights on how Canada's shifting demographics will continue to influence the growth of organic agriculture.

"Baby boomers, particularly the 50-plus boomers, have driven the

market for organic food and drink for the past decade and will continue to do so," says Foot. But "the organic industry needs a clear definition of what 'organic' is or my fear is that it may become a fragmented industry. The demographics are all in the organic industry's favour for explosive growth, but there needs to be ownership of the brand."

A professor at the University of Toronto, Foot published *Boom, Bust and Echo 2000: Profiting From the Demographic Shift in the New Millen-*

*nium* in 1999 and *Boom, Bust and Echo: Profiting From the Demographic Shift in the 21st Century* in 2001.

He is the keynote speaker at the conference, which runs Jan. 24 to 27. This year's theme is "Building Sustainable Organic Business." The four-day event will look at how farmers can transition into growing crops for organic agriculture.

One of North America's longest-running organic events, the conference was started in 1982 by two in-

ternational students studying agriculture at U of G. The annual event now attracts organic farmers, retailers, wholesalers, government officials and motivated consumers from across the continent.

This year's conference will include international guest speakers, full-day training programs and 30 workshops in areas such as starting a profitable organic farm, making organics a viable career choice, crop and organic livestock production, weed management strategies, and

business models for the organic retailer.

A panel discussion on "Dialing for Consumer Dollars — Organic, Fair Trade, Local" is slated for Jan. 25.

The conference will also feature a free trade show Jan. 26 and 27 in the University Centre with close to 160 exhibitors, some offering free organic food samples.

For registration and a conference schedule, visit the website [www.guelphorganicconf.ca](http://www.guelphorganicconf.ca).



**INSIDE: WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER • A JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY • NOT FOR YOUR EYES ONLY**



## Bikes and Books

No, the U of G Library hasn't been overrun by biker gangs. Under the helmet is academic liaison librarian Peggy Pritchard, an avid motorcyclist whose other hats include coaching science students online and promoting science careers for women. See story on page 7.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Applications Rise

*U of G, Guelph-Humber see increase of 14 per cent*

**A**PPPLICATIONS TO U OF G and the University of Guelph-Humber are up more than 14 per cent this year — nearly triple the system average — according to recent figures from the Ontario Universities' Application Centre (OUAC). In addition, the number of applicants who named U of G or Guelph-Humber their "first choice" rose nearly 19 per cent.

OUAC figures show that 21,034 applications were made to Guelph's main campus, an overall increase of 12.6 per cent. Both first- and second-choice applications rose 17 per cent, and third-choice applications were up nearly 12 per cent. U of G plans to accept about 4,000 students on the main campus next fall.

"We are delighted that Guelph continues to be a popular choice among qualified and motivated students," says president Alastair Summerlee. "As always, it's a testament to the strength of our reputa-

tion, the diversity of our programs and our incredible faculty, staff and alumni."

Guelph-Humber received 3,449 applications, an increase of 24.7 per cent. First-, second- and third-choice applications were up 30, 18 and 22 per cent respectively. Guelph-Humber expects to admit about 850 students to its eight programs next fall.

"This is great news for us and is growth that we anticipated and hoped for," says John Walsh, Guelph-Humber's vice-provost (chief academic officer). "The University of Guelph-Humber is gaining momentum and recognition, and we continue to increase the numbers, strength and depth of our applicant pool, which helps ensure quality students and programs."

System-wide, applications to Ontario universities are up 5.1 per cent — the highest demand for first-year spots since the double cohort.

## U of G Project Gets \$1M to Catalogue Marine Life

*Guelph to co-ordinate field projects in DNA bar-coding of up to 85,000 specimens in major museum collections worldwide*

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**A** U OF G PROJECT that aims to identify and catalogue the estimated 230,000 species of things living in and around the world's oceans has received \$1 million from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

The funding will pay for DNA bar-coding of up to 85,000 specimens in four major museum collections around the world and includes \$240,000 for U of G's role in co-ordinating these field projects.

"It's difficult to identify everything that moves in the sea just by the human eye," says post-doc Dirk Steinke, the principal investigator for the international Marine Barcode of Life project. He'll oversee the initiative from the Canadian Centre for DNA Barcoding at U of G's Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO).

Scientists will ramp up marine DNA bar-coding efforts beyond the 8,000 species catalogued under the project during the past two years. By 2010, they hope to have bar codes for at least 50,000 species in the database. The specimen collections that will be analyzed are housed at the Florida Museum of Natural History, the Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle in Paris and Queensland Museum in Brisbane, Australia.

The project will also provide data for the Census of Marine Life, a related initiative that involves researchers from around the world. Scheduled for release in 2010, the census will include the most comprehensive list of species of creatures known to live in the oceans.

Steinke says this information is invaluable for several reasons. Knowing what lives in the world's oceans is a key to understanding marine systems and protecting those creatures. He says the project will also help with such tricky problems as identifying fishing catches or preventing the invasion of foreign species into Canadian waters.

Until now, experts had to spend time examining specimens under the microscope and consulting references to identify creatures. DNA bar-coding developed at Guelph allows scientists to identify species by reading a telltale segment of genetic material in a minuscule tissue sample, like scanning a supermarket bar code. BIO researchers believe we'll eventually use hand-held devices to test, say, a fillet at your restaurant table to make sure you're getting what you ordered.

"This new funding provides a way to do DNA bar-coding quickly," says Steinke. "We have telescopes to look for planets, and we have no sim-

ple idea what lives in the ocean."

Researchers also expect the project will help trace evolutionary lineages by using genetic material to sort out what's related to what. For instance, a fish in the Pacific may look the same as something caught in the Atlantic, but they may turn out to be entirely different species.

That application appeals to Steinke, who studied evolutionary biology at the University of Konstanz before coming to Guelph

two years ago.

The Canadian Centre for DNA Barcoding is run by Prof. Paul Hebert, Integrative Biology. Hebert is also scientific director of the Canadian Barcode of Life Network, a group of researchers from institutes, government agencies, universities and other organizations across the country.

Besides cataloguing ocean creatures, Guelph scientists work on similar projects involving animals,

fungi, plants and one-celled organisms.

The Marine Barcode of Life is a joint project of the Consortium of the Barcode of Life and the Census of Marine Life, both international initiatives based in Washington.

Steinke recently received \$50,000 from a French mining company to collect fish specimens from Australia's Great Barrier Reef. That information will also feed into the marine bar-coding project.

## OVC Study May Lead to Better Treatments for Colon Cancer

*Biomedical scientists examine effects of anti-angiogenic therapy on tumours*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**U** OF G RESEARCHERS have moved a step closer to explaining why cancer drug therapies work differently in patients with the same type of tumour.

In a study published this week in *Oncogene*, one of the world's leading cancer journals, Prof. Brenda Coomber and senior research fellow Siranoush Shahrzad of the Department of Biomedical Sciences exam-

ine the effects of anti-angiogenic therapy, which aims to block the growth of blood vessels in tumours in an attempt to stop them from growing.

Specifically, the researchers looked at the therapy's effect on mutations in the K-ras gene in colorectal cancer. The K-ras gene controls normal cell behaviour, but when it becomes altered, it's one of the most common mutations lead-

ing to aggressive and continuous tumour growth.

Previously, Coomber and Shahrzad showed that when cells have defects in their ability to repair DNA, K-ras mutations formed in hypoxic (oxygen- and nutrient-deficient) regions of tumours.

Based on those findings, they speculated that if tumours were treated with anti-angiogenic therapies, there would be an increase in

*Continued on page 10*



**clickSIGNS** 519-824-4120  
Visit us at the University Centre Ext. 58031

**Banner Stands**  
Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand

Portable and Affordable

Large Format Printing By: **Roland**

Banner-Up Retractable

[www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)

**Acorn Financial Services**

210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: [michaelmcmurray@acornfinancial.ca](mailto:michaelmcmurray@acornfinancial.ca)

Michael H. C. McMurray  
Partner

- RRSP and Investment Accounts and Deposits
- RRSP Loans at Prime +0
- Michael can answer your questions and help you explore your options
- Call today for a free consultation

**Guelph's widest selection of Royal Flush approved toilets.**

Great brands including Kohler, American Standard, Toto, Duravit, Mansfield.

Excellent collection of bathroom faucets by Kohler, American Standard, Price Pfister.

**Royal Toilet Rebate Program**

**RONA CASHWAY**

**AIR MILES**  
Travel and More

55 Dawson Road, Guelph  
519-821-5744

**MONTESSORI**  
SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON  
established 1996

**Montessori School of Wellington**

- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**  
(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
[www.montessori-school.ca](http://www.montessori-school.ca)

# from the president

## We're All in This Together

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee welcomes comments on his column at [president@uoguelph.ca](mailto:president@uoguelph.ca) or via his blog at [www.uoguelph.ca/president/blog](http://www.uoguelph.ca/president/blog).

**J**OHN MILLOY, Ontario minister of training, colleges and universities, and John Wilkinson, minister of research and innovation, recently visited U of G in the same week. While taking them on tours of both old and new campus sites and listening to their discussions with faculty, staff and students, I got the distinct impression that they were "getting it."

By this I mean they were starting to understand that there's something about Guelph that sets us apart from other institutions of higher education. Of course, many qualities underpin our uniqueness, ranging from the high level of student engagement in the teaching and learning process to the quality of our faculty and staff to our beautiful and secure campus.

But I want to focus on one particular U of G characteristic that was evident to me both during these ministry visits and on several occasions in recent weeks — a quality that is sometimes overshadowed by more dramatic features but is nevertheless fundamentally important.

I am talking about collegiality. We have it in abundance at Guelph, and it makes us different, effective and enviable. I believe it is the cement that holds universities together. Without it, they would not only lose their soul but would also have no gravitational pull.

Collegiality, a close cousin of good citizenship, is what enables universities to maintain an open atmosphere where freedom, academic and otherwise, is the order of the day. Universities need it as much as they need buildings and government funding, students and professors. It is a central part of the university experience.

Administration is also a vital part of a university community. Without it, a university would cease to function. And administration cannot be performed exclusively by those who have administrative titles such as dean and department chair. Much of the day-to-day routine, in fact, relies on the knowledge, skills and experience of our faculty, students and staff.

For example, a university needs faculty members for a host of other things: updating curricula, sitting on appeals committees, reviewing academic programs, serving on Senate, chairing graduate student defences, etc. We need staff to share their knowledge with others through formal workshops and through involvement on committees and in University initiatives. The list goes on.

By their very nature, universities are free places. Freedom of inquiry, freedom of speech and freedom of research are their cornerstones. In such an environment, faculty, staff and students have a great deal of power. They can choose to do a lot of administration or

very little. We are fortunate to be part of a university with a history firmly rooted in collegiality, and as such, our staff, faculty and students willingly share in duties that help the University function.

Recently, for example, students, faculty and staff worked together to review Senate's standing committees, setting new standards for decision-making and forming new coalitions. I believe this faculty-led initiative will greatly improve Senate's efficiency, communication and integration.

In addition, faculty are leading an effort to set new policies and standards for the Research Ethics Board and have been working with staff and students to revamp the student awards process to establish best practices for allocating financial support.

Faculty, staff and students have also taken an active collaborative role in the integrated planning process, working together to identify priorities and help guide strategic planning to meet the University's mission now and in the future.

And all three groups worked tirelessly to make recommendations for improving and enhancing the undergraduate learning experience at U of G as part of the University's 21st-Century Curriculum Committee.

Most recently, the entire campus community put their heads together to address the recent concerns with WebAdvisor, demonstrating that the need, purpose and effectiveness of collegiality are never tested more than during problematic times.

It is important to note that collegiality does not mean conformity. In fact, in the United States, the American Association of University Professors emphasized this point by issuing the following statement, worth repeating here in its entirety: "A distinct criterion of collegiality holds the potential of chilling faculty debate and discussion. Criticism and opposition do not necessarily conflict with collegiality. Gadflies, critics of institutional practices or collegial norms, even the occasional malcontent, have all been known to play an invaluable and constructive role in the life of academic departments and institutions. They have sometimes proved collegial in the deepest and truest sense."

Of course, like anything else, collegiality fluctuates depending on times and circumstances. Achieving and maintaining internal harmony rely on creating an overall atmosphere in which faculty, students and staff get along with one another and understand the importance of working together for a common purpose.

This is exactly the message our faculty, staff and students were conveying to those visiting ministers as they told the stories behind what brought them to Guelph and, more important, the reasons they remain.

This kind of devotion is the product of the genuine warmth within our University community. It is generated by the reverence our people have for the institution's mission and goals and their role in the process.

## Nominees Sought for 2008 Winegard Volunteer Awards

**T**HE UNIVERSITY and Guelph communities are calling for nominations for the second annual Dr. William Winegard Exemplary Volunteer Involvement Awards.

Named in honour of former University of Guelph president Bill Winegard, the awards were created in partnership with the United Way and the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington last year to recognize the

volunteer involvement of members of the University community and to reward those who have made extraordinary contributions and inspired others through their involvement. Nominators can be peers, colleagues, supervisors or organizations that benefit from the volunteer efforts of the nominee.

Nominations should be a maximum of one page and should include

a description of the nominee's volunteer work and how it has benefited the community. The nomination package should also include a biography of the nominee, no longer than 250 words.

The deadline for nominations is March 20. Send them by regular mail to the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington or by e-mail to [admin@volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca](mailto:admin@volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca).

<p><b>Editor</b> Barbara Chance <a href="mailto:b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca">b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca</a></p> <p><b>Design</b> Peter Enneson</p> <p><b>Production</b> Linda Graham <a href="mailto:l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca">l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca</a></p> <p><b>Advertising</b> Scott Anderson <a href="mailto:theandersondifference@rogers.com">theandersondifference@rogers.com</a></p> <p><b>Director</b> Chuck Cunningham <a href="mailto:c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca">c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca</a></p>	<p>At Guelph is published every two weeks by Communications and Public Affairs, Level 4, University Centre, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.</p> <p>Inquiries: 519-824-4120 Editorial: Ext. 56580 Distribution: Ext. 56581 Advertising: Ext. 56580 <a href="http://www.uoguelph.ca/adguide">www.uoguelph.ca/adguide</a> Classifieds: Ext. 56581 Fax: 519-824-7962 Website: <a href="http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph">www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph</a></p>	<p>Articles may be reprinted with credit to At Guelph.</p> <p><b>Subscriptions</b> \$25 (includes GST); \$30 outside Canada ISSN 08364478</p>
---	---	---



## B OF G SEEKS NOMINATIONS FOR EXTERNAL MEMBERS

Board of Governors is calling for suggestions of individuals external to the University who might be considered for appointment to the board. B of G is particularly interested in expanding its list of qualified candidates to include external members from the following equity groups: Aboriginal Peoples, persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities and women. Recommendations are welcome at any time and will be kept on file for three years. Suggestions can be forwarded in confidence to: B of G Membership and Governance Committee, University Secretariat, Level 4, University Centre, or univsec@uoguelph.ca.

## EMPLOYEES GET DISCOUNT ON GUELPH TRANSIT PASSES

Starting March 3, full- and part-time U of G employees can save 15 per cent on the rates for Guelph Transit monthly passes. The discount is part of a year-long e-pass pilot project between the City of Guelph and two of its largest employers, U of G and The Co-operators. Both employers have been working with the city to develop incentive programs that would reduce auto-dependent commuting to and from the workplace. Earlier this year, U of G participated in a transit survey that assessed attitudes towards transit. The results indicated that a reduced price for monthly passes and improved services would encourage staff to consider taking the bus to work.

## RINGETTE TEAM WINS GOLD

U of G's ringette team captured gold at the University Challenge Cup tournament in Ottawa this month. Guelph was among 11 Canadian universities that competed in the ninth annual national competition hosted by Carleton University. There were two divisions, with Guelph winning the Tier 2 title and the University of Calgary capturing the Tier 1 title.

## OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH MOVES TO AXELROD

Occupational Health Services has relocated from Christie Lane to Room 179 of the Axelrod Building. For updated staff phone extensions, call Heather Harris at Ext. 52647.

## PHILOSOPHY GOES PUBLIC

The Department of Philosophy is launching a lecture series called "Philosophy Goes Public" at the Guelph Public Library. The inaugural lecture is Jan. 30 at 7 p.m. at the main branch and features Prof. Patricia Sberidan discussing "Philosophy and the Witchcraze."

## IN MEMORIAM

Barbara Brooks, a retired staff member in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, died Jan. 24. She worked at U of G from 1982 to 1997 and is survived by three daughters, Laura, Kathleen and Alison; four grandchildren; and her partner, Fred Fletcher.

# A Journey of Discovery

U of G writer-in-residence tags along as her characters explore

BY TERESA PITMAN

WRITING CAN BE A SOLITARY, even lonely profession, but novelist Catherine Bush has found some buffers against that isolation. One is her standard poodle, Layla, who sleeps on a blanket in the corner of her Massey Hall office and quietly insists on being walked a couple of times a day. Another is meeting people by teaching and talking about writing — something she's doing this semester as writer-in-residence at U of G.

"As writer-in-residence, I am brought into contact with a whole range of people, and I get to know their stories and the stories that surround what's written on the page," says Bush. "They are people who love the thing I love — writing — and being able to talk to them about it is very enjoyable to me."

That love of writing was apparent early on in her life.

"It was like a switch that got turned on when I was quite young," she recalls. "I knew I wanted to write, and in my teens and early 20s I was largely trying to figure out ways to find the time to write. I just kept making decisions about my life that would allow me to do more writing."

Her readers — and there are many of them — appreciate her commitment. Bush's first novel, *Minus Time*, appeared in 1993 and was shortlisted for both the Smith Books/Books in Canada First Novel Award and the City of Toronto Book Awards. It tells the story of a 21-year-old woman and her brother as they sort out their relationships with each other and with their parents as their mother, an astronaut, circles the Earth in a space shuttle and their father travels the globe on international relief missions.

Bush's second novel, *The Rules of Engagement*, was published in 2000 and was also shortlisted for the City of Toronto Book Awards. In addition, it was chosen as a *New York Times* Notable Book and a Best Book of the Year by the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Globe and Mail*.

Her third book, *Claire's Head*, was published in 2004, selected as a Best Book of the Year by the *Globe and Mail* and shortlisted for the Trillium Book Awards.

As you might guess from the dates of publication, Bush is not what she calls a "super-fast" writer.

"It takes me five years or so to write a novel," she explains. "I used to want to be faster, but I've come to accept it. With my current novel, *The Thief*, it's taken me about 2½ years to create a draft. I can't really call it a first draft because some parts of it have already been rewritten 10 or more times. Now I'm going to go through it all again, and there will be a lot more rewriting."

In fact, says Bush, "I can't over-emphasize how important revision is in good writing. The other thing that I think is critical is paying attention and being aware of the world, using all your senses."

She's also not much of an "outline" writer. "I usually start with a



Catherine Bush reads "everything," including submissions from the campus community. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

character and some initial situation. I'll also have some idea of how I want to end the story, although that may change. I set my characters off on a journey of discovery, and I go along with them."

Writing a novel is "very scary," she says, "and the only encouragement I can give myself is that I know I've done it before, but I set myself new challenges each time so each book is radically different."

In *The Thief*, which Bush says explores the legacies of accusation and the impossibility of ever knowing the truth about another person, she has given herself at least two big ways to stretch. First, she is using two points of view to tell the story. "It means I have to listen to the characters in a new way." Second, the story is set partly in Canada and partly in Ethiopia, so she is exploring a much different place and culture.

"I had to feel my way into characters who are very different from me. But I think that's an essential part of what we do as writers, moving into the lives and minds of our characters and trying to understand people who aren't like us. I think that's an important imaginative and ethical act."

Although her first three books explored sibling relationships, Bush says she consciously decided not to make that a theme in her new novel.

"I didn't deliberately set out to write about sibling relationships the first three times, but obviously this is something I'm interested in, and it emerged differently in each novel."

Bush is the eldest of three sisters who are close in age but very different, she says. "In sibling relationships, there is great potential for conflict but also for change, self-discovery, and moral and emotional complexity. That makes them fertile ground for writers."

Even though sibling relationships aren't part of her newest plot, it was a visit to her sister in Ethiopia that sparked the initial ideas for *The Thief*.

When she's not visiting her sisters, writing or taking Layla for walks, Bush loves to read.

"I read everything. I like to mix contemporary works and the classics, and I like to read things from writers of different nationalities, to keep shaking myself up as a reader. I read poetry, too, because it puts me into the language in a new way."

She adds that she doesn't look to fiction to provide answers about the world, "but to provide probing questions about the way we live in the world. The truth is not as simple as we think, and that's what we want fiction to dramatize. There isn't just one truth, and fiction can bring those multiple truths into collision or at least into contact."

Bush earned her undergraduate degree in comparative literature at Yale, then spent a fellowship year at the Fine Arts Work Center in Provincetown, Mass. She's been writer-in-residence at four other universities and is also on the faculty of the creative writing MFA program at the University of British Columbia.

Here at U of G, she is available for one-on-one meetings Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

"I am here as a resource to people interested in writing. I can answer questions about the writing life, read what people have written and provide comments and professional advice. I'm also available to speak to book clubs and other groups."

Anyone interested in meeting with Bush this semester can contact Michael Boterman at Ext. 53147 or mboterma@uoguelph.ca.

## people

### DUTCHER ELECTED FELLOW

Prof. John Dutcher, Physics, has been elected a Fellow of the American Physical Society for his fundamental contributions to the understanding of polymers at the nanoscale, particularly to the development of novel experimental techniques for the study of ultrathin films. He was also recently invited to join the editorial board of *Soft Matter*, a Royal Society of Chemistry journal.

### PROF NAMED ASSOCIATE EDITOR OF JOURNAL

Prof. Neil MacLusky, chair of the Department of Biomedical Sciences, has been named associate editor of the journal *Endocrinology*, the oldest journal of the Endocrine Society and one of the most authoritative biomedical research journals in the world.

### OVC STUDENT RECEIVES CIHR DOCTORAL AWARD

Kathleen Nichols, a PhD candidate in the Department of Biomedical Sciences, recently received a Frederick Banting and Charles Best Canada Graduate Scholarship from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research for her work on "Regulation of CYP2A5 and Hepatic Drug-Metabolizing Enzymes During Steatosis." Her supervisor is Prof. Gordon Kirby.

### FITNESS EXPERT INVITED TO PRESENT IN LAS VEGAS

Lynne Skilton-Hayes, fitness centre co-ordinator in the Department of Athletics, has been invited to present at the IDEA World Fitness Conference in Las Vegas this summer. She was also recently named ProTrainer of the Year.

## Co-op Award Winners Named

THE WINNERS OF U of G's 2007 Co-op Student of the Year Awards are Laura Siversn, a B.A.Sc. student, and Veronika Saxena, a bachelor of applied computing science student. The awards recognize a wide variety of student achievements, including job and academic performance and contributions to their employer, co-op education and the community at large.

Siversn, a child, family and youth major, won in the category of business, communications and social sciences. She was nominated by her co-op employer at the Guelph Community Health Centre. Saxena, who won in the science and technology category, was nominated by her employer at Canadian Tire.

Runners-up are marketing management student Tyler Clark and engineering student Jennifer Irwin.

Nominees and winners will be recognized at an awards ceremony during National Co-operative Education Week March 17 to 21. Both Siversn and Saxena will move forward as nominees for the Education for Work Ontario and the Canadian Association for Co-operative Education awards.





Special Constable Jim Armstrong displays a STOP security plate intended to deter thieves from stealing laptop computers and other equipment. PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

## The One-Per-Cent Solution

Campus police offer tips to stem rising laptop thefts

BY TERESA PITMAN

**Y**OU'RE SOUND ASLEEP in your residence room, exhausted after a long afternoon of studying. When you wake up from your nap, the laptop that was sitting on your desk is gone — along with your almost-finished essay and all those class notes you were counting on to get you through midterms.

Yes, that's actually happened here on campus. In fact, Special Constable Jim Armstrong of Campus Community Police reports that laptop thefts continue to increase.

"In the last school year, we had 14 reports of laptop thefts over the entire year," he says. "This year, we've had 23 laptops reported stolen in the first semester and four more since the winter break. Most happen when students leave their room unlocked for a few minutes to use the washroom or visit a friend, but some more brazen thieves have walked in while people were sleeping."

Armstrong has what he calls the "one-per-cent solution" — a \$20 investment to protect a \$2,000 piece of equipment — made even more valuable by the data and notes you've compiled on the laptop.

"I strongly recommend protecting your laptop with a STOP security plate," he says. "It's a permanent bar-code plate that's attached to the laptop with a cyanoacrylate adhesive that's almost impossible to remove. If the thief does get the plate off, it leaves a permanent tattoo chemically etched on the computer. This eliminates the thief's ability to sell the laptop."

STOP stands for Security Tracking of Office Property and has been

successful in protecting computers at many universities, including Harvard, Yale and UCLA. Armstrong says the University of Toronto has noticed a significant drop in the number of laptop thefts since introducing this program two years ago, even though the problem is growing at other schools.

His other recommendations:

- Always lock your room, even if it means taking the key with you when you go to use the washroom.
- Buy a cable lock to secure your laptop to the desk.
- Buy an engraver or have one from the 24-hour residence desks or the Campus Community Police office on Trent Lane. Use it to engrave your driver's licence number on all your valuables.
- Make a list of all your valuable items along with their serial numbers and take a digital photo of each one. Store the photos on a CD or memory stick and keep it somewhere besides your room.
- When you take your laptop with you, carry it in a knapsack or other bag rather than a laptop case.
- Be sure to back up important files and store them separately. "The information on your computer could be more valuable to you than the laptop itself," says Armstrong.

To buy a STOP plate, students, staff and faculty can download a registration form from the website [www.police.uoguelph.ca](http://www.police.uoguelph.ca) or pick one up at the front desk in the Trent Building. When a plate is purchased, the make, model and serial number of the laptop are recorded and linked

to the STOP plate's bar code on a secure tracking database. The plate is then attached to the laptop.

If the laptop is lost, the finder can call the toll-free number on the plate, and arrangements are made for it to be returned to the owner. (If you decide to sell the laptop, just call that same number and the ownership will be transferred.)

"Laptops are the second most popular target for thieves in North America, right after cars," says Armstrong. "Here on campus, the highest crime that happens is opportunity theft and is highly preventable. All it takes is some personal responsibility."

The following appointments were recently announced at the University:

- Sheryl Beauchamp, graduate program assistant, Department of Computing and Information Science
- Natalie Carter, U of G/OMAFRA agreement research programs assistant, Office of Research
- Steve Chapman, senior research engineer/hydrogeologist, School of Engineering
- Richard Couto, courseware architect, Teaching Support Services
- Shane Danis, project manager, Physical Resources
- Deyna Dinesen, graduate secretary/clerk, Department of Clinical Studies
- Graham Dohson, electrician, Physical Resources
- Wilfred Ferwerda, project manager, Physical Resources
- Paul Forrest, digital and PC technician, School of Fine Art and Music
- Michelle Gobbi, undergraduate transcript clerk, Undergraduate Program Services
- David Gordon, electrician, Physical Resources
- Maria Gorecka, senior analytical

## U of G Closes Gap in Operating Budget

**A**T ITS FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW YEAR, B of G was informed that important progress has been made toward achieving a balanced budget for 2007/2008, and the board approved a revised Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) operating budget.

Members were told that Guelph has managed to close a "gap" of \$950,000 in its current operating budget, largely because of higher-than-anticipated graduate enrolment. In addition, the provincial government's decision to fully fund enrolment increases at the University of Guelph-Humber will result in higher revenue than budgeted, and Guelph-Humber expects to have a surplus of \$4.6 million in this fiscal year.

But challenges for the 2008/2009 MTCU operating budget remain, especially uncertainties about key government allocations, the impact of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) contract negotiations, and the current \$14.3-million structural deficit.

B of G was advised that, like last year, the operating budget will be presented at the June board meeting to ensure it is based on as much certainty as possible.

To make sure that consideration of tuition and other student fees occurs while students are still on campus, however, the board will look at those components of the budget at its April meeting, along with the ancillary budgets.

In other business, B of G was updated on decisions made surrounding pension plan valuations. The University prepared recent filings for its pension plans that recognized \$85 million of contributions in order to eliminate solvency deficits in the plan. The result is a \$50-million debt in the operating budget that will be repaid from future operating cash flows. This was a tactical decision designed to mitigate higher contributions based on 2006 valuations.

B of G also approved changes to the wording of the University's pension plans text so the language is consistent with negotiated improvements concluded with the Exempt Group and USW Local 4120 members.

The master plan for athletics and

recreation, which will guide future development of the University's athletic facilities and offerings, also got B of G's nod. Board members were advised that specific projects would come forward for their consideration, which is standard for all major capital projects.

In addition, B of G gave the go-ahead for repairs and improvements at Macdonald Institute. The 103-year-old building's brick parapets (the wall along the edge of the rooftop) and some of its other walls are in dire need of repair, and the building's historical portico and terrace are in need of restoration, the board was told. Construction is scheduled to start in the spring of 2008 and to be completed by year's end.

Members were updated on Guelph's advocacy efforts, including seeking relief from provincial requirements for a wind-up valuation of University pension plans and emphasizing the importance of the OMAFRA contract to provincial leaders.

The board also heard a presentation on the success of U of G's enriched student learning initiatives, during which two students shared their positive learning experiences.

chemist and laboratory manager, School of Engineering

- Michele Guerin, assistant professor, Department of Population Medicine
- Andreas Heyland, assistant professor, Department of Integrative Biology
- Rashmi Jadeja, lab technician, School of Engineering
- Bonnie Lashy, recruitment co-ordinator, physical sciences and mathematics, CPES dean's office
- Stefan Linguist, assistant professor, Department of Philosophy
- Elizabeth Lowenger, diversity and careers officer, OVC dean's office
- Sean Lyons, assistant professor, Department of Business
- Hong Ma, electronic technologist, School of Engineering
- Martha Manning, research animal technician, Campus Animal Facilities
- Jeff McFarlane, generic agricultural assistant, Research Station Operations
- Joseph Meissner, nuclear magnetic resonance technician, NMR Centre
- Manjusri Misra, associate professor, School of Engineering and Department of Plant Agriculture

- Ingrid Mundle, co-ordinator, experiential education and community engagement, Student Life and Counselling Services
- Robert Nicol, assistant professor, Ridgeway Campus
- Michelle Pitre, research animal technician, Campus Animal Facilities
- Deanna Plexman, associate registrar, Admission Services
- John Rohson, project manager, Physical Resources
- Justin Selby, construction co-ordinator, Physical Resources
- Sooley Stoikos, service assistant, Academic Records
- Janet Thackray, secretary, Department of Philosophy
- John Vanos, project manager, Physical Resources
- Maureen Venables, administrative assistant to the Business Development Centre and bookstore co-ordinator, Kempville Campus
- Kathy Virgin, co-op/career co-ordinator, Co-operative Education and Career Services
- Karen White, admissions secretary, College of Biological Science
- John Zettel, assistant professor, Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences.

**The next issue of At Guelph  
appears Feb. 13.  
Copy deadline is Feb. 5.**

board of governors

appointments



# In the Course of Her Daily Work

BY TERESA PITMAN

**I**F YOU'RE A STUDENT, you probably don't think much about how the programs and courses you sign up for are created. It's all pretty straightforward: you make your choices from the calendar, cross your fingers that you'll get in and confidently expect that, in the end, the courses will teach you what you need to know.

You can have that confidence because of people like Patricia Tersigni, co-ordinator of undergraduate curriculum at U of G, who oversees the development of new courses and makes sure all the i's are dotted and the t's crossed.

"Our guidelines include regulations from the Ontario government and the University's own learning objectives," says Tersigni. "In fact, we are one of a small number of universities with established learning objectives — we've become the model for other schools. These form part of the approval process and provide additional quality assurance."

Once the content of a new course is established, the next step is to slot it into the schedule. In the days before computers, managing class and student schedules could be a nightmare, says Tersigni. But even with computers, creating an accurate academic calendar and then scheduling the courses "is still a complicated process for students and for us. We want to both maximize efficiency and make sure students get what they need as we develop the plans."

That could be her mantra: making sure students get what they need. And she has a lot of students to consider: Tersigni manages the undergraduate courses and diploma programs at the main campus, the regional campuses and the Univer-



Patricia Tersigni oversees the development of new courses at U of G.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

sity of Guelph-Humber, ensuring that the courses fit with U of G's guidelines and are compliant with Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities requirements — in addition to meeting students' needs.

Following all these parameters means that developing courses takes a lot of time.

"For example, we have two new majors beginning in the fall of 2008," says Tersigni. "U of G's liaison team was out recruiting students for the programs in the fall of 2007, and the development process really started in the departments about 18 months before that."

An idea for a new course or major may start at the college or department level and usually begins because of faculty interest and expertise, says Tersigni.

"From that point on, it's a real team effort. After departmental approval, I'm working with the program committees to make sure proposals fit with the goals of the college and the University."

And she keeps on working with them even after the course has received Senate approval and is listed in the undergraduate calendar.

"It then becomes our responsibility to deliver what we've prom-

ised. Sometimes we need to make changes — enrolment is lower than expected or the faculty member teaching the course leaves or goes on sabbatical. Then we need to find appropriate substitutions that will still meet students' needs."

Another aspect of curriculum design Tersigni is involved in is the credit weighting of courses.

"We know students benefit from deep engagement in a class and that many courses have a great deal of out-of-class work. So we encourage departments and programs to review and reassess course weights when needed."

Although her job can require lots of negotiation with departments, it's largely a positive process, she says.

"I'm fortunate to work with many very committed people. The faculty and staff are really dedicated to the students and to the academic goals of the University."

Tersigni first discovered that commitment while earning her BA and MA in drama at Guelph. Although she decided against doing a PhD, she realized she liked being in an academic environment, "so when a job opportunity came up to travel to high schools and talk about the University, I jumped at it."

From there, she moved on to OVC, where she recruited students for the DVM program and helped with career development. That led to temporary positions as a program counsellor, where she began to be involved in curriculum development.

"All these varied experiences led me here," she says. "I have a really broad knowledge of the campus, and I think having worked in different departments and programs has served me well in this job."

That wide-ranging experience also served her well as a member of the 21st-Century Curriculum Steering Committee, which released its final report at the end of the fall semester.

"It's been very encouraging to see that many of the recommendations have already been embraced by people," she says.

*For Tersigni, one of the best parts of her job is the variety it offers.*

"I work with so many different people — deans, faculty, program counsellors, students — and that's what I really enjoy. It's always interesting, and you feel that you're making a difference."

## Not for Your Eyes Only

Special eggs developed by U of G prof are good for your eyes — and good for those egg layers, too

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**L**OOKING TO KEEP YOUR EYES in good shape? Next time you're at the grocery store for carrots, remember the eggs, too. Eggs developed by U of G researchers that contain an eye-saving substance from marigolds hit supermarket shelves about 18 months ago.

Pumping up the amount of lutein in eggs by feeding it to the egg layers is an idea that Prof. Steve Leeson, Animal and Poultry Science (APS), has been studying since 2002. Besides examining human health benefits of the eggs, he's considering the effects of lutein-enhanced diets on the well-being of the hens themselves — work that holds out dual promise for poultry farmers supplying eggs to the grocery trade.

Lutein is a natural pigment found in egg yolk and leafy green vegetables, as well as fruits and corn. It's been shown to help prevent cataracts and macular degeneration, which is

a leading cause of vision loss in people over 60.

"If you're going to get macular degeneration, it's going to be 15 to 20 years before it's problematic," says Leeson. "Eating these eggs today is not seen as improved vision tomorrow but prevention for early retirement years."

Besides concentrating at the back of the eye, dietary lutein collects in fatty tissues throughout the body. It's been shown to work as an antioxidant, making it helpful in preventing such diseases as colon cancer.

As a supplement in pharmacies and health-food stores, lutein may be less effective and stable than when it's contained as a nutraceutical in eggs, says Leeson. The substance is sensitive to light and temperature, so if it's left on the kitchen or bathroom shelf, it may quickly pass its best-before date.

Eggs naturally overcome those problems, he says. Contained in the yolk, lutein stays in the dark inside

refrigerated eggs. Freshly produced eggs normally reach stores within a week and are usually consumed within days of purchase, he says. Egg lutein also gets into the body more readily than in supplement form.

The lutein-enhanced eggs — also containing omega-3 fatty acids, another nutraceutical developed by University professor emeritus Bruce Holub, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences — are sold by Burnbrae Farms in Ontario under the name Naturegg Omega Pro.

But there's a challenge for egg producers, one that Leeson hopes to help overcome. Federal health regulations allow only 300 micrograms of lutein per egg, much lower than the amounts allowed in dietary supplements. The U of G poultry nutritionist says he could provide five times that amount in eggs, but federal regulators are leery.

"We're experimenting and putting more in," he says. "We're doing research that will allow us to

raise the lutein to higher levels when government regulations catch up."

A related challenge is how to balance higher lutein levels with varied consumer preferences for yolk colour. Consumers in Manitoba and Saskatchewan, for instance, prefer their yolks as pale as Post-It notes. Ontarians look to the middle of the yellow-to-orange spectrum.

"We can produce an egg that's good for you, but you may not like the look of it," says Leeson, who works with chickens at the Arkell Research Station. "We're trying to increase lutein with only a moderate increase in yolk colour."

Last year, he published a paper about lutein's effects on performance, egg composition and liver status of laying hens. Another paper published with APS colleague Prof. Grégory Bédécarrats discussed how lutein affects immune response in hens.

In a new collaboration with Prof. Liz Lee, Plant Agriculture, Leeson is

planning to test corn varieties for effects on poultry health. Lee recently found two corn varieties especially high in lutein. (She'd been looking for value-added varieties and contacted Leeson when she encountered these cultivars.) He says their work may improve chicken health and offer a premium product for local corn growers.

Lutein currently comes from marigolds grown in South and Central America. That's where Leeson had already been working with chicken producers when he learned about the lutein-marigold connection. The flowers, often as big as dinner plates, are dried to yield lutein powder.

Flowers and fowl come together in Peru, where poultry farmers often grow marigolds for the horticultural and cut-flower trade.

"In some cases, the marigold business overshadows the chicken business," says Leeson, whose wife, Anne, runs a flower shop in Guelph.



# 'Random Walk' Research Leads to U of G

Save it, invest it or exchange it — following the money is research interest for new economics professor

BY TERESA PITMAN

**W**HY DO MANY lower-income households in the United States save virtually none of their income? In trying to answer this question, economists have developed theories and researched the topic from several points of view. Prof. Alex Maynard, Economics, has weighed in with a recent study that considers one aspect of the issue.

"Some experts in the United States have suggested that programs like Medicaid that provide medical insurance for lower-income households discourage them from saving money," says Maynard. "The theory is that without Medicaid, they would be more motivated to save for future medical care. Another factor may be that there's sometimes an asset test to get on Medicaid. If people have too much in savings, they don't qualify."

By comparing savings rates for families in different states with varied Medicaid policies, previous studies found evidence that average family savings declined with Medicaid eligibility. But when Maynard and his co-author re-sliced the statistics by different income groups, they found that Medicaid policies really didn't make a difference for the savings of the lowest-income households.

"The study doesn't answer why they're not saving much money, but it's not because of Medicaid," he says.

That particular study is easier for economics novices to understand than much of Maynard's other work. He describes himself as an applied econometrician, which means he works with complex statistics designed to analyze economic data and uses them to find solutions and an-



Prof. Alex Maynard says Canadian universities are "a good deal."

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

swer questions about economic issues.

This isn't where he expected to end up when he first enrolled in university. Born in Boston, he went to Cornell University, where "they have a less specialized liberal arts structure that requires you to take more diverse courses. Often people don't know their major when they come in."

In his second year, Maynard took an economics course and found it "very logical, very interesting — I understood things I hadn't understood before." Economics became his major.

After graduating from Cornell, he went on to complete a PhD at Yale, then worked for the Federal Reserve in Washington, D.C. He eventually realized he was more

interested in working in an academic research and teaching setting, so he took a position at the University of Toronto, where he stayed for six years. He then spent a year at Wilfrid Laurier University before arriving at U of G in the fall.

"I was very excited to come here," says Maynard, who commutes from Toronto, where his wife is a lawyer. "Guelph has a strong economics department — it's a great environment."

He's also enthusiastic about his ongoing research and enjoys the challenges of econometrics. What's the difference between the type of statistics used in scientific disciplines and the methods employed by econometricians?

Many statistical methods are designed for scientific experiments, where all other influences can be controlled for and where each data point is independent of the others, he explains. In economics, however, researchers can't always conduct randomized studies.

"We can't call the Bank of Canada and ask it to move the interest rate up and down so we can see how other things are affected."

So studies have to be based on observations of what's going on in the real world, says Maynard, and what's happened in the past can clearly affect what happens in the next round of data. The statistical formulas he uses to analyze the data need to take this into account.

He's especially interested in time series econometrics, studying data that are recorded over time — interest rates, stock returns, currency exchange rates, etc.

"One problem we sometimes encounter with these kinds of data is that they can have a random trend. It's described as a random walk: the pattern of the data on a chart looks like the path of someone who is drunk and walking in a field. This is obviously different from data that show a definite trend or direction."

One challenge is that it can be difficult at times to tell if the data actually follow a random walk, he says, and careful statistical analysis is needed to distinguish between random walk behaviour and other models.

For example, Maynard applies this to theories about investing in the stock market. One theory, the efficient market hypothesis, says you can't outsmart the stock market. If you know why stocks should go up in price, other people will know, too, and will jump in and buy, causing prices to go up too quickly for you to make a lot of money. If stock prices are higher or lower than they should be, there will be a correction. So the approach for investors who go with this theory is to diversify the stocks they hold and buy and wait.

Another theory is based on the idea that some stocks can become undervalued and that you can discover them by doing research on a company. Buying these stocks would then yield a better reward when the

stock rises to its "real" value.

So which theory is right?

Studies from the 1980s and early 1990s suggested that people could predict some of the movements of the stock market based on the market being overvalued or undervalued, says Maynard. That seemed to indicate that value-based investing and market timing would be successful. But recent research he and others have done, analyzing the data with new techniques that allow for random walk behaviour, suggests that the initial ideas about how well the market changes could be predicted were probably overstated.

"It's about using more appropriate statistical techniques to analyze the data," he says, "and when we did that, we found more support for the efficient market hypothesis than we originally thought."

He uses similar statistical approaches to study changes in currency exchange rates.

"The area I'm interested in here is the forward premium puzzle or anomaly," he says. Here's what that's about: with any two currencies, you have both the exchange rate — meaning how they are currently valued against each other — and a forward exchange rate. The forward rate is used by companies that might be planning a big foreign purchase in the near future and want to lock in a price.

"When the market sets the forward rate, it is in a way predicting what it thinks the currency exchange rate will be in the future," says Maynard. "It might be offering a forward rate that locks in a price above the current exchange rate, for example, because the market thinks it's going up. So it seems as though this might be a predictor of what's actually going to happen to the exchange rates."

But it's not. "When you look at the historical data, it actually tends to be wrong even about the direction of the exchange rate. When people lock in a higher rate, the rate often goes down. It's very counterintuitive, so that's why we call it a puzzle or anomaly."

Maynard's research speculated that this result might be simply an artifact of the statistical approach used to analyze the data. With better techniques, he found that although the original statistics were wrong, they got the right result. "It's still a puzzle."

He'll be continuing these investigations here at Guelph. From his perspective as an American, he believes Canadian universities "are a good deal. You get a very good education and — compared with the United States — for a reasonable price."

He also notes that in the States, especially on the East Coast, where he hails from, "the best students tend to go to a relatively small number of universities. In Canada, the best students are more spread out, so any school you go to, you'll find bright, interesting students."

Business Travel - Travel Tools - Cruises - Packages - Seat Sales - Air Only



Flights



Cars



Hotels



Packages



Minute



Cruises

**Your NEW Local On-Line Booking Agent**

For Last Minute Bookings ...

**Book Online**

**www.royalcitytravel.com**



**WESTJET**

**AIR CANADA**

Ont. Reg. NBR02716341

**ROYAL CITY TRAVEL**

ROYAL PLAZA (Norfolk & Paisley) Guelph, ON

**763-3520** **www.royalcitytravel.com**



WINTER 2008



## Spectacle + Artifice

January 31 to March 30

*Spectacle + Artifice* engages contemporary photo-based practice through the work of established and emerging Canadian artists Robyn Cumming (Toronto), Janieta Byre (Toronto), Natascha Niederstrass (Montreal), Carlos & Jason Sanchez (Montreal), Reece Terris (Vancouver), and Elena Willis (Montreal). Once used for impartial documentation, today the camera is a tool of manipulation where truth and fiction mingle, where narrative structures are nuanced and reflected back through the aesthetics of performance. The exhibition

features works by artists who engage new technologies, traditional photographic practice, and elaborate staging to achieve imagery that is for some outrageous and for others extraordinarily subtle.

Through the inclusion of multiple works by each artist, a dialogue is constructed within their individual practices and across the spectrum of their shared discipline. Although distinguished by content and aesthetics, these artists invoke spectacle (singularly impressive, unusual or disturbing events) and artifice (a clever trick or deception). Where their works intersect and diverge—what is literally depicted and what is perceived as real—is punctuated by what is explicitly captured by the artists' lens.

Robyn Cumming's hyper-real compositions are a foil for the quiet performance of her subjects, who are posed as on a proscenium stage, their actions muted by the busyness of pattern and colour. Cumming uses the curtain as a motif to shorten the performance space, effectively upending the depth afforded by her camera, to reinforce the construction of each image. The viewer is seduced by the high definition of the scene, mesmerized by the odd actions of its players, and stopped short by the bold artifice of Cumming's composition. Equally intoxicating are Janieta Byre's seamlessly integrated double

^ Carlos & Jason Sanchez, *Crematorium*, 2006  
(inkjet print, 30" x 85")  
Courtesy of Caren Golden Fine Art, New York.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 3]

## Aggie Beynon Wabi: Imperfect Beauty

January 24 to July 20

Wabi-sabi is a beauty of things imperfect, impermanent, and incomplete. It is the beauty of things modest and humble. It is the beauty of things unconventional.

— Leonard Koren, *Wabi-Sabi: For Artists, Designers, Poets and Philosophers*

*Wabi: Imperfect Beauty* is a retrospective exhibition of metal and mixed media works by Waterloo artist and metalsmith, Aggie Beynon, RCA. It is a body of work that reveals the depth of Beynon's experimentation, innovation and achievements over the past 20 years. The exhibition features 51 jewelry pieces and vessels, including two *Perfume Bottles* from the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's collection of contemporary Canadian works in metal.

Ann Roberts, in her catalogue essay, defines Wabi as "a word first used by Japanese Zen Buddhist tea masters, priests and monks whose practice emphasized direct, intuitive insight into transcendent truth beyond all intellectual conception." This ancient philosophy is embodied in Beynon's work: irregularity, simplicity, unaffectedness. Central to her practice is her technique of powder metallurgy through which she achieves a relationship between her materials and the rock formations that inspire their transformation. From powdered metal to



^ Aggie Beynon, *Untitled (Brooch)*, 1989  
(polished powdered metal (pure silver, copper) and sterling silver formed to clasp carved ebony, Rokusho patina, 10.0 x 6.0 x 2.5 cm)  
Collection of the Artist

jewelry or vessel, many of Beynon's pieces transcend functional object to sculptural form.

Aggie Beynon achieved a BA in English from the University of Waterloo (1975), a BFA in Design from the University of Kansas (1982), and developed a patentable metal process with Ken Rose, Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Kansas (1980-84). In 1987, Beynon founded Harbinger Gallery Inc. in Waterloo where she is a leading figure in the growth and development of the arts community.

*Wabi: Imperfect Beauty* was curated by Suzanne Luke for The Robert Langen Art Gallery, Wilfrid Laurier University (Waterloo). The exhibition toured to the Anna Leonowens Gallery at the Nova Scotia College of Art & Design (Halifax) and the Illingworth Kerr Gallery at the Alberta College of Art & Design (Calgary).

**Artist Talk with Aggie Beynon**  
followed immediately by a wine and cheese reception for *Wabi: Imperfect Beauty*  
Wednesday, January 30 at 7 PM

358 Gordon Street  
at College Avenue  
Guelph, Ontario, N1G 1Y1

**HOURS**  
Art Centre/Gallery Shop  
Tues. to Sun., noon to 5 PM  
from January to July  
August by appointment  
Sculpture Park  
open year round  
dawn to dusk

Admission by donation  
Free parking

TEL 519.837.0010  
FAX 519.767.2661  
info@msac.ca

www.msac.ca



## Special Exhibition Preview

Evan Macdonald: A Painter's Life



▲ Evan Macdonald, *The 1965 Demolition of the Guelph Public Library, 1965* (oil on canvas), Gift of the Guelph Creative Arts Association, 1980, Macdonald Stewart Art Centre Collection

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre is pleased to collaborate with the Tom Thomson Art Gallery on a major retrospective exhibition in recognition of the career accomplishments of Guelph artist Evan Macdonald (1905–1972). *Evan Macdonald: A Painter's Life*, opens on Thursday, May 8 with a public reception, remaining on view to July 20. Trained in the British academic tradition, Macdonald was a prolific artist who produced countless oil sketches and preparatory drawings of landscapes, individual trees, buildings and streetscapes, the Guelph farmers' market, and patrons reading in the public library. His watercolours show a fresh palette and a master's hand with this difficult medium. He received an honorary degree from the University of Guelph in 1970, the first to be received by a Guelph resident.

Macdonald's daughter, Flora Spencer, spent many years researching, locating and documenting his art works, resulting in a perceptive and thoughtful essay about her father's art and life which will be published in the exhibition catalogue (Wilfrid Laurier University Press). The MSAC acknowledges The Guelph Community Foundation's Musagetes Fund for their generous sponsorship of this project and for their commitment to supporting scholarship in Canadian visual arts.



Don't miss the concurrent exhibition featuring paintings by the Group of Seven selected from the MSAC/UG collections, including major works by Tom Thomson and Lawren Harris (opening May 8, 2008).

## MSAC Receives \$75,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation for HVAC Upgrade

Guelph's public art gallery has received a significant grant of \$75,000 from the Ontario Trillium Foundation towards the cost of replacing its heating, ventilating and cooling (HVAC) system. The MSAC will complete the new HVAC equipment installation in spring 2008.

In fall 2007, MSAC received \$235,000 from Cultural Spaces, Heritage Canada towards this project. With the total cost for replacing the HVAC system being \$580,000, the MSAC continues its fundraising activities.

The new system will benefit the collections of over 6,000 art works, covering three centuries of Canadian Art, by ensuring that correct museum-standard humidity and temperature levels are maintained in the building, to ensure the safety and longevity of this valuable community resource.

THE ONTARIO  
TRILLIUM  
FOUNDATION



LA FONDATION  
TRILLIUM  
DE L'ONTARIO



Canadian  
Heritage

Patrimoine  
canadien

## Silver Jewelry and Embroidery by the Naxi, Bai and Miao People of China

### Tibetan Buddhist Jewelry and Clothing

January 24 to July 20



▲ Bai women sell objects of their cultural heritage at the farmer's market in Shaping.

In May 2007, MSAC director and curator Judith Nasby traveled to Chongqing, China to lecture on Canadian Inuit art as part of the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute's first international symposium on Aboriginal art in China and Canada. The symposium was held in conjunction with the launch of the touring exhibition, titled *Aboriginal Works from Juxian, Jinshan and Qijiang/Contemporary Canadian Inuit Drawings*, a collaborative project by the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre and the Chongqing Art Museum. At the conclusion of the symposium, Nasby traveled in Yunnan and Gansu Provinces, collecting extraordinary examples of jewelry and embroidery by the

Naxi, Bai and Miao people and by Tibetan Buddhists. The sale of traditional hand-made silver jewelry and embroidered clothing, in favour of new machine-made articles, has resulted in the availability of objects of tremendous cultural and historic importance.

The Naxi have lived in concentrated communities in the Naxi Autonomous County of Lijiang, Yunnan Province, South West China for 1,000 years. Naxi society is largely matriarchic, and the women wear traditional dress in recognition of their roles and identity within the community. The exhibition features Naxi scripts inscribed with traditional Dongba pictographs, as well as embroidery

with dragon and phoenix imagery intended to bring luck to its wearer.

The Bai have lived in the rugged, but fertile, mountains of the Cangshan-Erhai Lake (Yunnan Province) for more than 4,000 years. Bai women are excellent embroiderers, combining innumerable stitching techniques with batik and tie-dye using cording, gold and silver bands, and three-dimensional appliqué. The Bai are known for heavily embroidered baby hats and carriers, called *quobei*, and remarkable silver necklaces depicting animals and anthropomorphic subjects.

The Miao live primarily in southern China, in the provinces of Guizhou, Hunan, Yunnan, Sichuan, Guangxi, Hainan, Guangdong, and Hubei, and can trace their ancestry to the twenty-fifth century B.C. Women's headdresses have special importance in Miao culture, and depict animistic decoration in accordance with traditional Miao religion.

The Labrang Monastery in Xiahe, Gansu Province, is the second largest Tibetan monastery in the world. It is an important pilgrimage site and centre for learning. Today, the monastery houses 1,700 monks. Buddhist liturgical vestments and regalia worn by pilgrims, that feature coral and brass beads, shells, amber, turquoise, cloisonné, and even silver coins, can be readily purchased in shops on the main street of Xiahe.

**Brown Bag Lunch: exhibition**  
curator Judith Nasby  
Tuesday, February 26 at noon

## Art Centre News

### Our Team

MSAC acknowledges the contributions of our fall 2007 Collection Management Assistants Nicole Hewat and Karen Judge (Canadian Museums Association - Young Canada Works in Heritage Institutions). We wish Nicole and Karen well in their individual pursuits toward building careers in the field of visual arts. We thank our student employees (Ontario Work Study Program), interns, and volunteers who have gained valuable experience working with MSAC staff in all aspects of gallery operations through 2007/8: Jennifer Althouse, Brittany Anderson, Amy Calder, Josh Cleminson, Emily Drinkwater, Andrea Dziura, Madison Erhardt, Brandan Frey, Seth Gerry, Katie Green, Michelle Lane, Emily Martel, Danielle McAllister, Lonnie McDonnell, Stella Melchiori, Elizabeth Meyer, Claire Mussar, Katie Reiffenstein, Sarah Scholes, Grace Scorrar, Katie Shoemaker, Kevin Wallace, and Lisa Whittaker.

### Gardenscapes 2008

Planning is underway for this 16th annual self-guided tour of Guelph gardens, organized by the Art Centre Volunteers. Join us on Sunday, June 22 from noon to 5:30 PM to view 10 extraordinary properties cultivated by local gardeners. Complimentary refreshments will be served at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre, where the gift shop and sculpture park are also open.



▲ Martin Golland, *Hothouse*, 2006 (oil on canvas, detail)  
Purchased with funds raised by the Art Centre Volunteers, and with financial support from the Canada Council for the Arts, 2006.

### Gallery Shop/Art Sales & Rental

The Gallery Shop, managed by our dedicated Art Centre Volunteers, offers a wide selection of Inuit sculptures, as well as works by regional artists in pottery, raku, blown glass, wood and silver. Original art works in a variety of media are available for sale, or minimal rental costs. Proceeds from the Gallery Shop/Art Sales & Rental sponsor art acquisitions. (For more information about the Gallery Shop, call 519-837-3808.)



SPECTACLE + ARTIFICE CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Natascha Niederstrass, *Broken, Part 1*, 2007 (video still).  
Collection of the artist.



Elena Willis, *Sweet Dream II*, 2006 (digital C-print, 60" x 48").  
Collection of the artist.



Reece Terris, *Bridge (Wooden Arch)*, 2006 (colour photograph, 26" x 33" framed). Courtesy of Jennifer Kostuik Gallery, Vancouver.

self-portraits, symbol-laden views of domesticity that examine the phenomenology of siblings, notably twins. Despite the ready acceptability of the manipulated photograph, Byre's silver prints are deceptively subtle. Her interiors are strewn with symbolic imagery inhabited by strange girls, immobile and often staring out of the frame at the viewer. The stillness of Byre's compositions, and even the styling of her scenes, recalls early nineteenth century portraiture when each exposure took minutes to capture on film.

The still photograph is jolted to life in the work of Natascha Niederstrass. With a two-part installation of simultaneously looping videos, she conjures the double-image as a metaphor for solitude and absence. Like Byre, Niederstrass performs in her own work; however, her aesthetic is restrained (even elegant) and her actions broken, accompanied by a cacophonous soundtrack. Performance is also at the core of Reece Terris' work. Terris challenges the perception and representation

of space through video, photographic documentation, and architectural models. What takes place in the fabrication of each image implicitly informs the finished works, a process that reveals the fallibility of the photographic image.

In contrast to her contemporaries represented in the exhibition, Elena Willis completely immerses the viewer in a non-physical world and she doesn't attempt to convince that the space beyond her lens is real. The unsettling events that she depicts are completely severed from reality, yet we know and understand this space of black dreams, caught in a dim spotlight.

The meticulously constructed images of Carlos & Jason Sanchez so closely replicate a film noir aesthetic that the visual narrative compromises the (non) fictional thread. As viewers, we are afforded rare proximity to acute emotion: pain, elation, utter disquiet. The Sanchez brothers weave life with fiction in their portrait of *John Mark Karr* (2007). Karr confessed to the murder of six-

year-old Jon Benét Ramsey who was found dead in the basement of her family's home in Boulder, Colorado on December 26, 1996. However, DNA tests failed to place Karr at the scene of the crime. With their portrait of Karr, the Sanchez brothers are complicit in the story which has played out in the international press and consumed by the public as infotainment.

*Spectacle + Artifice* is curated by Dawn Owen.

**Brown Bag Lunch:** exhibition curator Dawn Owen on curating and collecting photography  
Tuesday, February 5 at noon

**Artist Talk with Robyn Cumming**  
on her series *Little Legs*  
Friday, February 8 at 1:30 PM

**Exhibition Reception**  
Wednesday, February 13 at 7 PM

## Drawn by Light: Collecting Photography

January 31 to March 30

The exhibition, *Drawn by Light: Collecting Photography*, features works selected from the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's collection of contemporary photography, including many that are on public view for the first time. It is an opportunity to reveal important bodies of work that have been acquired for the permanent collection through purchases and donations, and offers a counterpoint to the concurrent exhibition *Spectacle + Artifice*. *Drawn by Light* focuses on traditional documentary approaches (such as the photo essay) and pre-digital techniques (such as photo-montage, collage or gum bichromate), in contrast to the highly directorial photo-based works featured in *Spectacle + Artifice*. These exhibitions ignite the debate between objectivity/subjectivity in the photographic image.

Andrea Modica (Manitou Springs, Colorado) celebrates the diversity of Native American peoples and challenges assumptions about their cultures in her photo-essay titled *Real Indians*, 2002 (a commission by the American Indian College Fund to photograph the people closely associated with the 32 tribal colleges for Native Americans in 12 western states). Twenty-five of Modica's silver prints are featured in *Drawn by Light*. The exhibition includes nine large silver print portraits of Inuit artists created by John Reeves (Toronto), a

leading documentarian of Canada's Arctic Inuit communities. Reeves created these photographs on visits to nine distinct Inuit communities between 1968 and 1998: Arctic Bay, Baker Lake, Cape Dorset, Chesterfield Inlet, Bskimo Point, Igloodik, Keewatin, Pelly Bay and Repulse Bay.

Ten silver prints selected from *The Boxing Portfolio* (1989-1996) by Larry Fink (New York), reveal the gritty reality of a sport consumed as entertainment. A practitioner of the 'snapshot aesthetic,' Fink uses the flash to terrific expressive potential, a technique that epitomizes, even values, the imperfect photograph. *Ring Girls, Madison Square Garden, NY*, May 1996 (pictured) acknowledges the archaic tradition of scantily-clad showgirls who announce each round during a fight. Fink's close proximity to his subject results in the awkward elongation of her legs, a gross distortion that underscores the brutish reality of the sport.

Three gum bichromate prints by Stephen Livick (London, Ontario) from his *Middle America* series employ visual literalism: pointed snapshots of middle class society. The complexity of Livick's medium stands in contrast to his subjects, who are photographed at home and in their local environments. Pre-digital photographic manipulation is explored in the collages of Sylvie Belanger and Christine Davis, and in the

photo-montages of Brian Scott. Belanger and Davis question our understanding of identity and representation, whereas Scott's work references the surreal and deals with culturally-coded aspects of perception. John Massey combines conventional photography with digital manipulation, as exemplified by two

photo-serigraphs, and Lori Newdick takes an unfettered approach to figurative colour photography in a vertical triptych (Belanger, Davis, Scott, Massey and Newdick live and work in Toronto.)

*Drawn by Light: Collecting Photography* is curated by Dawn Owen.



▲ Larry Fink, *Ring Girls, Madison Square Garden, NY*, May 1996 (from *The Boxing Portfolio*, 1989 to 1996)  
(silver print photograph on multi-grade fibre-based paper, edition 13/25)  
Gift of Avrum Glasner, 2005, Macdonald Stewart Art Centre Collection



## Exhibitions



January 30 Aggie Beynon's  
*Wabi: Imperfect Beauty*

**Aggie Beynon** *Wabi: Imperfect Beauty*  
Organized by The Robert Langen Art Gallery, Wilfrid Laurier University (Waterloo)  
January 24 to July 20

**Silver Jewelry and Embroidery by the Naxi, Bai and Miao People of China**  
Tibetan Buddhist Jewelry and Clothing  
January 24 to July 20

**Spectacle + Artifice**  
January 31 to March 30

**Drawn by Light: Collecting Photography**  
January 31 to March 30

**Chris Ahlers: Urban Systems**  
Continuing to March 10



February 8 Artist Talk with  
Robyn Cumming

## Events

**Wednesday, January 30 at 7 PM**  
**ARTIST TALK:** Aggie Beynon (Waterloo) followed immediately by a wine and cheese reception for her exhibition *Wabi: Imperfect Beauty*.

**Tuesday, February 5 at noon**  
**BROWN BAG LUNCH:** Assistant Curator Dawn Owen on "Curating and Collecting Photography: *Spectacle + Artifice* and *Drawn By Light*."

**Friday, February 8 at 1:30 PM**  
**ARTIST TALK:** Robyn Cumming (Toronto) on her photo-based practice including the series *Little Legs*, featured in the exhibition *Spectacle + Artifice*.

**Friday, February 8 at 8 PM**  
**CONCERT:** Visual arts icon and pianist Michael Snow (Toronto) and percussionist Jesse Stewart (Guelph) collaborate in a unique improvisational performance  
Tickets: \$20 general and \$15 student/senior

Contact Aidan Ware, Public Programming Assistant, for conference, reception, and tour bookings (info@msac.ca or 519.837.0010).

LEFT, TOP TO BOTTOM Aggie Beynon, *Pin*, 2005 (constructed powered metal (pure copper, silver, gold-heat patina), sterling silver, 14k yellow gold, set with 2.10 ct. tourmaline); Robyn Cumming, *Many Shades of Pink*, 2006 (chromogenic print, detail); Janieta Eyre, *The Twin Manicurists*, 1996 (silver print photograph, detail).

**Sunday, February 10 at 3 PM**  
**CONCERT:** Clarinetist Lori Freedman (Montreal) with Guelph musicians Ajay Heble, David Prentice, Billen Waterman, and Jesse Stewart.  
TICKETS: \$15 general and \$10 student/senior

**Wednesday, February 13 at 7 PM**  
**EXHIBITION RECEPTION:** *Spectacle + Artifice* with many of the artists in attendance, followed at 8 PM by a free public concert directed by Lori Freedman.

**Wednesday, February 13 at 8 PM**  
**CONCERT:** Clarinetist Lori Freedman directs youth musicians from the Contemporary Music Ensemble (University of Guelph), Guelph Youth Jazz Ensemble, and local Guelph high schools. Free Admission!

**Monday, February 18 from 9 AM to 5 PM**  
**FAMILY DAY!** A full day of family friendly activities:  
10-11:30 AM: Snow Sculpture Super Stars  
11 AM-12 PM: Painting the Group of Seven  
1-2:30 PM: Act Out! Performance Art  
3-4 PM: COPY CATS Printmaking  
4-5 PM: A Grand Tour of Guelph's public art gallery  
ALL DAY: Dress the Bear!

**Tuesday, February 26 at noon**  
**Brown Bag Lunch:** Director and curator Judith Nasby on "Silver Jewelry and Embroidery by the Naxi, Bai and Miao People of China, and Tibetan Buddhist Jewelry and Clothing."

**Tuesday, March 4 at noon**  
**BROWN BAG LUNCH:** Darryl Butler, Manager of Heritage Resources at King's Landing Historical Settlement (New Brunswick), on "Thomas Nisbet and the furniture makers of Saint John, New Brunswick, the commercial capital of the 19th century Maritimes."

**Monday, March 10 at 2:30 PM**  
**COLLAB PARTY** with artist Paul Butler (Winnipeg) and critic Robert Bnright (Winnipeg/Guelph).

**Tuesday, April 1 at noon**  
**BROWN BAG LUNCH:** Oswaldo (Achu) DeLeón Kantule on "Molas and Kuna Art from Panama."

RIGHT, TOP TO BOTTOM Carl Skelton, *Canadiana/Begging Bear*, 1995-1999 (bronze, detail), purchased with funds donated by the Walter and Ouncan Gordon Foundation with the financial support of The Canada Council for the Arts, 1999; Tibetan Buddhist Neckpiece; Mola textile in reverse appliqué from Kuna Yala, Panama.



February 18 Family Day!



February 26 Brown Bag Lunch  
with Judith Nasby



April 1 Brown Bag Lunch with  
Oswaldo DeLeón Kantule

**KNAR**  
Jewellery

The World's Finest Brands...  
Without Circling the Globe.

56 St. George's Square, Guelph  
519.821.7982  
80 King St. S., Waterloo  
519.888.9200  
321 Cornwall Rd., Oakville  
905.815.8777

Wyndham Art Supplies

Guelph School of Art  
framing  
painting  
drawing  
printmaking  
sculpture  
design  
architecture  
stationery

164 Wyndham Street North  
Guelph ON N1H 4E8  
519-767-1317  
1-800-560-1970  
fax 519-767-1471  
www.wyndhamARTsupplies.com



**The Bookshelf**

41 Quebec St Downtown Guelph

bookstore • café  
cinema • eBar  
gallery space

for show times and events  
519-821-3311  
www.bookshelf.ca



www.bookshelf.ca

**harbinger**  
gallery



Canadian Painting,  
Jewellery, Clay,  
Glass, Sculpture,  
Printmaking,  
Drawing, and  
Mixed Media

22 Dupont Street East  
Waterloo, ON N2J 2G9  
519-747-4644

Tues - Fri 10:30 - 6 | Sat 10:30 - 5

www.harbingergallery.com

**MSAC**

358 Gordon Street at College Avenue, Guelph, Ontario, N1G 1Y1 | Admission by donation | Free Parking  
ART CENTRE/GALLERY SHOP HOURS Tuesday to Sunday, noon to 5 PM from January 24 to July 20, 2008  
(open by appointment only from July 21 to September 3, 2008) SCULPTURE PARK HOURS open year round, dawn to dusk  
TEL 519.837.0010 | FAX 519.767.2661 | info@msac.ca | www.msac.ca

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre is supported by its sponsors: the University of Guelph; the City of Guelph; the Upper Grand District School Board; and the County of Wellington; by memberships and donations; and by grants from the Ontario Government through the Ontario Arts Council and the Ministry of Culture, and from the Federal Government through the Canada Council for the Arts and the Museums Assistance Program of Canadian Heritage. Special thanks to @Guelph and the University of Guelph Communications and Public Affairs

ONTARIO ARTS COUNCIL  
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO  
Canada Council  
for the Arts  
Conseil des Arts  
du Canada



# On the Road to Science

*U of G librarian weaves together roles as counsellor, teacher, consultant and author*

By ANDREW VOWLES

**O**LIVIA, 9, plans to become an interior designer or singer. Her cousin Allison, 7, wants to be a librarian and artist. But if the girls ever consider becoming scientists, they'll know where to turn for career advice: their step-grandmother. Recently appointed U of G librarian Peggy Pritchard has taken on many roles — student counsellor, teacher, consultant and author — as she weaves together a career advising students on their own pathways toward science. Thinking of her granddaughters but speaking for any student, she says: "It's important that they follow their heart. What is it about science that interests them?"

In November, Pritchard started a contract appointment at Guelph as academic liaison librarian for chemistry, physics and engineering. Besides heading daily to campus — a trip the 48-year-old occasionally makes astride her Kawasaki motorcycle ("What is so wonderful is to drive down the street and see the men's heads turning because they're jealous," she laughs) — she took on an extracurricular post with a new off-campus website that helps high school students move more easily into university science programs. Call it a "coach's corner" for tomorrow's scientists.

Officially, Pritchard is the online coach for SONIC (Synapse Outreach Network in Cellsignals), a science recruitment program funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) in partnership with the Toronto-based Canadian Biotechnology Education Resource Centre.

This virtual mentoring program promotes health research careers among middle and high school students by providing help with science fair entries, classroom visits, teacher information and summer research experiences. Visitors to the program website ([www.cellsignals.ca/sonic](http://www.cellsignals.ca/sonic)) can view short video clips of scientists and PhD students talking about their work.

As of last September, users can also click around the SONIC coach section — complete with Pritchard's photo and bio — to pose career questions and see her posted replies. Recent queries have included how to figure out university costs, how to find part-time work while studying, and how to combine science and military training at university. She's also written short articles for the site about emerging careers in nutrigenomics, bioinformatics and neuroscience.

Pritchard says students view her as an independent source of advice apart from their parents and other, possibly biased, acquaintances. That's a role she cultivated as a career counsellor at Queen's University during the mid- to late 1990s. One key tip she learned while talking with students was to listen to the verbs, not the nouns.

"It's not: 'I want to be a veterinarian.' Instead it's: 'I'm so interested in improving the health and working life of these thoroughbred horses.' If you hear the questions they're asking themselves, the questions tell you what's fascinating them."

Her SONIC role came in a roundabout way.

Several years ago, Richard Ellen, a professor of dentistry at the University of Toronto, began "Cellsignals" as a CIHR strategic training program for grad students in health research. Last year, he obtained additional funding to extend the program to teens interested in health research careers. Pondering how to



reach that younger audience through the program's existing website, he thought of Pritchard.

She had edited a book published in 2006 called *Success Strategies for Women in Science: A Portable Mentor*. She had also relocated her communications consulting business to Guelph. (Pritchard had accompanied her husband, Andrew Kropinski — a microbiologist at Queen's — for his secondment to the Public Health Agency of Canada here. He's also an adjunct professor in U of G's Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology.)

Speaking of Pritchard, Ellen says: "She seems to love what she's doing. I think that alone is a terrific message for teenagers. She has this sparkle — she feels really strongly about what she's doing. She's working in a very important area."

That "area" involves promoting science to both girls and boys, as well as providing advice specifically for female students nearing the end of their graduate studies and beginning their science careers.

The latter audience is the intended readership for her book, which grew out of a problem she had noticed at Queen's. There, she and a colleague had introduced a skills training course in 2000 for microbiology grad students — male and female. Pritchard encouraged her female students to look for mentors among faculty members, but the idea was apparently too daunting for them.

"They were concerned that these women would want nothing to do with students. I thought: 'If I can't get my students to go to the mentors, I'll bring the mentors to the students.'"

That ultimately led to publication of *Success Strategies for Women in Science*. Published by Elsevier, the 350-page volume discusses such topics as career management and professional development, mentoring, networking, communicating science, time stress and work-life balance. Individual chapters were written by female scientists at universities and research institutes in Canada, the United States and Europe.

Besides editing the book, Pritchard interviewed more than 350 scientists about their experiences, including physicist Ursula Franklin; Rita Colwell, former director of the U.S. Na-

tional Science Foundation; and CIHR research vice-president Mark Bisby. She used many of their stories in the book and also wrote chapters on career management, time management and mental toughness.

Her project was partly funded by CIHR, which has voiced concerns about low application rates for research funding among women and relatively few nominations of women for Canada Research Chairs at universities.

The book has a U of G connection. In 2004, as she was completing the manuscript, Pritchard came to Guelph for an earlier research leave of Kropinski's. As a visiting scholar, she met engineering professor Valerie Davidson, who offered Pritchard office space in the Thornbrough Building to finish the project.

The book resonated for Davidson, who has held an NSERC/HP Chair for Women in Science and Engineering since 2003. She says the proportion of female students in university science programs is growing, but that number falls off when those women reach the workforce.

That's echoed by Bisby and Miriam Stewart, scientific director of CIHR's Institute of Gender and Health. In the book's foreword, they write: "In our 2003 competition for PhD studentships, 58 per cent of the applicants were women; for post-doctoral fellowships, 47 per cent were women; and for career awards for new faculty, only 36 per cent were women." They go on to note that when CIHR last offered awards for senior investigators in 1992, women made up only 20 per cent of award holders.

"Her book gives a lot of different practical tips," says Davidson, who organized a campus lecture by Pritchard in early 2005. "Those kinds of details are helpful when you're going from being a student to being a working professional."

The two have reconnected since Pritchard returned to Guelph and are beginning a pilot project to archive materials from Davidson's regional chair for a digital collection in the McLaughlin Library. Davidson says that collection may grow to include all five regional chairs across Canada.

Pritchard is one of 13 academic liaison librarians assigned to academic units across campus. As the library's main contact for faculty, staff and students in chemistry, physics and engineering, she helps develop research and teaching collections and provides information on literacy skills training.

She's worked in libraries at McGill University and the University of Lethbridge, as well as at the Barrie Public Library. She studied library and information studies at McGill for her master's degree, following an undergraduate degree in health and physical education at Queen's.

Besides offering online career advice through SONIC, she runs Pritchard Communications and Consulting in Guelph. As a speaker, she has given presentations to young scientists at U of G and at universities in Europe and the United States. Early this year, she will discuss women in science at the University of California at Berkeley. She's also president of Town and Gown Toastmasters in Guelph.

Looking for the thread running through those interests, Pritchard says it's all about making connections, for her and for others. "I have a passion for that."

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE

## EYE EXAMS NOW ARRANGED

- Eye Doctor Prescriptions Filled
- Two Opticians with over 57 Years Combined Experience
- Senior's Discount Available
- Family has served Guelph and Wellington County since 1940

**Scott Coburn Optical**  
"A Name You Can Trust in Eyewear"

Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Fri. 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.  
**Telephone 519-821-2020**



Scott Coburn



## Campus Hardware Limited

1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag



123 WYNDHAM ST. N. Opposite the old Post Office





"It takes only a few good teachers to keep you going," says fine art professor Nestor Kruger.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Behind the Walls

Artist brings innovation and wide palette to U of G

BY TERESA PITMAN

SOMETIMES ART can really surprise you. Imagine you've arrived at Toronto's goodwater gallery to find that the front windows are boarded up, as though the gallery has been shut down. Even the door has been removed and replaced with one made of plywood. But it's not locked, so you push it open and enter.

Inside, you find yourself in a long, narrow corridor made of construction-grade plywood and completely enclosed. At the far end some 40 feet away, a large speaker blasts loud music at you, and fluorescent lights illuminate the area near the door. If you walk forward, you might discover that you can push the wall where the speaker is mounted and it will open, allowing you to enter the rest of the gallery, but because the space is almost bare, with only a couple of chairs set up, it doesn't feel very rewarding.

You've just experienced *Monophonic*, a recent installation by Prof. Nestor Kruger, who joined the School of Fine Art and Music in July.

"It was an intense collaborative process with the gallery owner," says Kruger. "He helped me figure out how far we could push things. We were in constant dialogue as it was developed."

It's not like any of the work he's done in the past, yet that makes it typical of Kruger. Innovation and trying new techniques and concepts are hallmarks of his creative efforts.

A 1989 graduate of the Ontario College of Art and Design, he says it was his year of off-campus independent study in New York City that really opened his eyes to the opportunities in the art world. "The New York art scene was very exciting in the '80s."

To add to his repertoire of techniques, Kruger then went on to study computer animation at Sheridan College.

Today, he's known for his large wall paintings as well as his digital animations and installations that, like *Monophonic*, include sound and movement. His work has been purchased by the National Gallery of Art and the Art Gallery of Ontario, and is shown around the world as well as in exhibitions across Canada.

For several years, he was also the art director for a Toronto animation company that produced the popular cartoons *Odd Job Jack* and *Sons of Butcher*, and he continues to work for the company on some smaller projects.

Although the kind of teaching he's doing at U of G is quite new for Kruger, he says it has a lot in common with being an art director.

"It's about evaluating work and making judgments and helping people understand how to improve what they've done."

Teaching is also like a puzzle, he adds.

"It takes a lot of tweaking and fine-tuning as you figure out what works. An exercise might fail with one group and work well with another, so you try to understand what made the difference. Was it a difference between the groups or something different in what I did? It can also be hard to grasp whether or not you're really making a difference. Could they have arrived at this result or improved in these ways on their own, or were you as the professor actually influential? I think that's something you can determine only over time."

After working with many young artists, Kruger believes that good instruction for art students is vital.

"I wanted to be involved at this beginning stage because the right kind of guidance at this point in artists' lives can help them use their abilities more effectively and be more versatile with the skills they have."

Besides providing the instruction he thinks is essential, he wants to be

part of the support system for young artists. "It takes only a few good teachers to keep you going."

The University environment is a kind of "support system" for Kruger as well.

"I'm really amazed by the quality of work being produced here and by how committed the faculty are to remaining active in the art world. It's very encouraging to be part of this kind of community."

When he's not creating his own art or teaching, Kruger spends a lot of time feeding what he calls his "addiction" — playing soccer.

"I'm on several teams, and I love watching others play, too," he says. "You just lose yourself in the game, and it uses a different kind of intelligence."

## YouTube Offers Wider Classroom

BY ANDREW VOWLES

WHEN 11-YEAR-OLD Justin Galvez needed help to illustrate a school assignment last year, he didn't have to look far. He found an entire series of poster how-to videos on YouTube, all prepared and posted by his dad, Alex, a graphics technician and instructor in the School of Engineering.

"With graphics, it's not how powerful it is — it's how friendly it is," says Alex Galvez.

He'd begun writing the series of web-based tutorials for students in a graphics course here on campus. Enthusiastic response from his students prompted him to write more. Then Galvez had another brainwave: Why not share his Guelph videos on YouTube, where they could reach a worldwide audience?

That was about a year ago.

Since then, his series has gained almost 400 regular subscribers beyond his in-class students. And it's

## Study Looks at Sex Outside the City

Researchers debunk idea of HIV as urban-only issue

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

CONTRARY to common perceptions, rural singles are just as likely to get involved in risky sexual behaviour that can lead to STD or HIV infections as their urban counterparts are, new research reveals.

Co-authored by Prof. Robin Milhausen, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, the study has found there's little difference between rural and urban singles when it comes to the number of sexual partners, frequency of unprotected sex and testing for STDs or HIV.

This finding debunks the perception that HIV and STDs are just an urban issue, says Milhausen, who worked on the study with Bin Huang and Richard Crosby of the University of Kentucky and Bill Yarber of Indiana University.

The study, to be published this winter in *Health Education Monograph*, is based on U.S. data but has important implications for Canadians, she says. About 95 per cent of Canada is considered rural, and 30 per cent of Canadians live in remote areas.

"The study suggests there are actually few differences between rural and non-rural individuals in terms of their risk behaviour, so we should not neglect rural areas in Canada when it comes to prevention and education efforts," says Milhausen.

The fact that rural people are at the same risk of getting STDs and HIV is especially worrisome because these communities aren't as well equipped as urban areas to deal with and contain an outbreak, she adds.

"It's often more difficult to access testing and treatment in rural areas,

and there appears to be more of a stigma associated with accessing these resources in small communities."

The study analyzed data from men and women aged 18 to 29 and found little difference between rural and non-rural singles in the number of sexual partners they've had. Rural men reported having about seven partners; non-rural men reported about eight. Rural women said they'd had five sexual partners, and non-rural women reported six.

When it came to having unprotected sex, about 46 per cent of both rural and non-rural men said they didn't use a condom the last time they had sex. For women, the findings showed a slight difference, with 47 per cent of rural and 51 per cent of non-rural reporting not using a condom.

Asked whether they'd had an HIV test, 44 per cent of the men in both groups said they had. Among women, there was a marked difference. Fifty per cent of rural women had taken the test, compared with 59 per cent of non-rural women.

Although the study recommends AIDS prevention work be intensified in rural areas to help keep the incidence of HIV from escalating, Milhausen warns that rural residents may be hesitant to respond to a health issue that has yet to hit home.

"People living in rural communities often feel as though they're not vulnerable to HIV or other STDs because these are 'big city' problems. The first task for health educators in rural areas is to get the message out that these infections don't discriminate based on geography. Sex without a condom is risky sex no matter where you live."

had thousands of hits from North and South America, Europe (mostly the United Kingdom) and Southeast Asia.

Galvez has created almost 80 video clips, covering numerous aspects of graphics and poster design. Each clip consists of a web page showing step-by-step animations with the instructor's voice-over discussing the topic. (To see examples, visit [youtube.com/coreldrawtips](http://youtube.com/coreldrawtips).)

Many of his tutorials have earned YouTube's coveted five-star status. The most popular one has had about 37,000 hits since the beginning of 2007.

The series grew out of his teaching sessions on poster design and presentation for about 150 students in a senior undergraduate design course taught by Prof. Doug Joy. Galvez uses a microphone and headset to record the tutorials on his office computer. He says it takes some time to prepare and post the tutorials, but once they're on the web, they're available to users anywhere

at any time — and identifiable as University of Guelph products.

He figures other instructors, including teachers of open learning courses, could easily adapt his idea.

"I would hope instructors would look for a way to make their course more visual," says Galvez, who is also the School of Engineering's webmaster.

The idea started in an engineering graphics course taught by Prof. Hussein Abdullah, in which Galvez teaches AutoCAD, a software package for drafting and design. When he started about a decade ago, he relied on manuals and handouts, but he soon learned that students were looking for something more hands-on.

Downloading short video clips from the course website (that series is not available on YouTube) is handy for students looking to reinforce what they've learned in class, he says.

"This generation is really visual. They see, they watch and they learn."



# Inside the House in the Arboretum

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**A** HANDMADE BEDSPREAD: What more homey item might William and Ellen Hamilton have chosen to mark their move into a brand-new stone house on their 400-acre farm that would one day become the U of G Arboretum? That was in 1859, just weeks after their third child, William Jr., was born.

A generation later, all the home comfort and hope sewn into that coverlet couldn't fend off reality. Mounting debts forced William Jr., an alcoholic gambler, to sell the property to the Ontario Agricultural College in 1910. A bad end for the Hamilton family, but it turned out to be only the end of a chapter — not the whole story — of the Hamilton house.

Early this year, a family descendant named Cameron Grant — a U of G graduate and soil scientist visiting the Department of Land Resource Science on a four-month research leave from the University of Adelaide — toured his ancestors' stone house in a visit arranged by *Arboretum*.

In turn, Grant led the house's current tenant on a virtual tour of photos and memorabilia, including a short family history that he wrote two years ago for the OAC history file in the U of G Library archives.

The Hamiltons' two-storey house stands at 329 College Ave., surrounded on three sides by the Arboretum. It's been leased for decades by the University. Current tenants John and Eleanor Bell — he's a Baptist pastor, she's a teacher — have lived there for 11 years.

John Bell remembers sitting in a coffee shop one Sunday when they spotted the property ad: "Old stone house, with deck facing the Arboretum." Sunday or not, they called to leave a message, figuring they couldn't pass up the opportunity.

"Although the house's interior has been remodelled, its basic floor plan remains much the same: a sitting room and kitchen on one side of a central staircase and a parlour on the other, four rooms upstairs and a cold cellar. Pine flooring laid with square-headed nails and the original rough-hewn beams in the cellar and attic hark back to its Victorian-era construction. The intervening years have seen the addition of interior cellar stairs, an upstairs bathroom and a back ground-floor room that serves as Bell's office and model railroad assembly space.



This monogrammed coverlet, which is now part of the Guelph Civic Museum collection, was made in 1859 by Ellen Hamilton, one of the original owners of the stone house on College Avenue that is today flanked by the Arboretum.

PHOTO COURTESY OF CAMERON GRANT

An arboretum was the last thing Alexander Hamilton and his younger brother William had envisioned when they cleared the 400-acre property for a farm in the mid-1800s. Neither brother could have imagined that the land would one day be owned by a university: it would be several decades before OAC was established to the west on Frederick Stone's Moreton Lodge Farm.

The brothers had emigrated from Ireland. Once they'd established themselves, they sent for their parents and siblings to join them. Initially they lived in a log cabin standing on the property built by early settlers. Grant's photos include a shot of the cabin, which was razed only in the 1950s.

William married Ellen Donovan, another Irish immigrant. Their first three children

were born in the cabin. In 1859, they moved into a new stone house complete with that new coverlet, made by Ellen and monogrammed with her name and her husband's initial.

William Jr. had been born that year. He took over the farm with his own family, but had to sell it to cover those gambling debts. The family would have tried to keep their troubles private, says Grant, but inside those stone walls, there were probably a few heated words between William and his teetotaler wife.

After selling the property to OAC and clearing their debts, they had enough money to build a new home just down the road. It's a 2½-storey red-brick house standing directly east of the Cutten Club and now privately owned.

That's where Grant's grandmother Nellie

Hamilton met his grandfather Gerald Grant, an OAC student. After graduating in 1919, Gerald tried farming with two of Nellie's brothers but eventually became a school-teacher. (One of those brothers, Fred Hamilton, became a dairy science lecturer in OAC. He retired in 1964, the year U of G was established).

The Grants had one son, William. He moved to Oshawa, where his son, Cameron, grew up. Cameron arrived at Guelph as an undergraduate in the mid-1970s, a few years after the first plantings had been rooted in the new Arboretum. The Arboretum master plan now refers to the Hamilton house — along with another stone house further east on College Avenue called Harrison House — as a possible location for an Arboretum centre one day, perhaps to house offices, meeting rooms, even a gift shop or tea room.

As a student, Grant knew about his family connection to the property, but he was busy with his studies and paid little attention to the stone house on the outskirts of campus. He completed a master's degree in soil science in 1984 before moving to Australia to do a PhD at the University of Adelaide.

Today he's the unofficial keeper of the family lore, something that might have quietly taken root during his studies here.

"I'm a soil scientist, and I love soil and land. My family happens to have strong links with the land."

At home in Adelaide, he has collected hundreds of family heirlooms, including furniture, clothing, dolls and toys, a copy of the land deed signed in 1845 by William Hamilton, even a pewter flask that he thinks his great-great-grandfather had confiscated from a farm worker.

Along with a short written history that he gave to the library archives, Grant included digital images of other items, including a sampler stitched by an 11-year-old forebear in 1868, a baby's cradle and that monogrammed bedspread. The latter item was donated to the Guelph Civic Museum in the 1960s.

Grant headed back to Australia in late January, but his family connection remains here through that stone house, his great-great-grandmother's coverlet and his son, Bamaby — a University of Adelaide student on a year-long exchange at U of G.

## Break Bread — But Not Just Any Bread — at Breakfast

CBS study finds sourdough bread tops, whole wheat on the bottom when it comes to daily health benefits

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**C**HOOSE YOUR BREAD wisely because the type of bread you eat for breakfast can affect how your body responds to lunch, a U of G researcher has found.

Prof. Terry Graham, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, studied four types of breads to determine which have the most positive health effects when it comes to carbohydrate metabolism, blood sugar and insulin levels.

"There's an urban myth that if you want to lose weight, you should not eat bread," says Graham, "but the truth is, bread is one of our biggest sources of grains and has a number of healthy benefits. With this study, we wanted to find out which breads are better, so we can optimize the benefits by combining them into

one type of bread."

Using white, whole wheat, whole wheat with barley and sourdough white breads, Graham and a team of researchers examined how subjects responded just hours after eating the bread for breakfast and again just hours after eating a standard lunch.

The subjects, who were overweight and ranged between 50 and 60 years of age, showed the most positive body responses after eating sourdough white bread, and those positive responses remained even after eating a second meal that didn't include the bread.

"With the sourdough, the subjects' blood sugar levels were lower for a similar rise in blood insulin," says Graham, whose findings have been submitted to the *British Journal of Nutrition*. "What was even more interesting was that this positive ef-

fect remained during their second meal and lasted even hours after. This shows that what you have for breakfast influences how your body will respond to lunch."

He says it's likely that the fermentation of the sourdough changes the nature of the starches in the bread, creating a more beneficial bread.

In contrast, the whole wheat bread varieties used in the study came out on the bottom — even below white bread. The whole wheat breads caused blood sugar levels to spike, and these high levels lasted until well after lunch.

Graham says the less positive blood responses sparked by the whole wheat are likely due to the fact that the milling process involved in making the whole wheat bread used in the study is similar to that used for white bread. This is not the case with

all whole wheat or whole grain breads, he adds.

"The parts of the grain like wheat germ and bran that have the health benefits are taken out to create white flour and then partially added back in to make whole wheat. Based on the findings of this study, as well as a followup study using whole grain rather than whole wheat, we are learning that the best way to get these nutrients is through a whole grain bread, not whole wheat."

The results of this study, which was funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs, have led Graham and a team of researchers to continue examining the healthy benefits of sourdough bread and whole grain.

In collaboration with Markham bakery Stonemill Bakehouse, they have developed a whole grain sour-

dough bread and are currently testing its long-term health benefits on subjects. They're comparing the results with the subjects' responses to a standard white bread.

Besides measuring blood and metabolic responses, the team is looking at cholesterol levels to see if the whole grain sourdough bread can reduce cholesterol levels when eaten over a long period. They're also studying how genetic makeup can influence the way a person responds to different breads.

Subjects are still needed for this study. The researchers are looking for men and post-menopausal women who are overweight, not diabetic and not on medication to control cholesterol or triglyceride levels.

For more information, call Ext. 56967 or send e-mail to [bread@uoguelph.ca](mailto:bread@uoguelph.ca).





## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Feb. 1 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to [r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 569B2. The following people correctly identified the building pictured in the Jan. 16 issue as part of the Central Animal Facility: Brigitte Brisson, Julianna Van Adrichem, Joanne Suffern, John Van Manen and Ray Hutchison.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

## Tumour Is Ecosystem, And It Evolves: Prof

Continued from page 1

the extent of hypoxic regions and in the amount of mutations in the K-ras gene.

"And that's what happened in our experimental system, which uses human tumour cells grown in mice," says Coomber.

Her team compared untreated experimental tumours with tumours that were treated for two weeks with an anti-angiogenic agent, followed by two weeks without therapy for both groups.

During the treatment period, they found no difference between the treated and the untreated tumours, but in the two weeks after the therapy stopped, the tumours that had been treated grew rapidly.

"We found there was an increase in the amount of hypoxia and a decrease in the number of blood vessels, yet the tumours were larger and growing," says Coomber. "That kind of response suggests that although the anti-angiogenic approach did what it was supposed to do, it did not halt or slow the growth of the treated tumours."

As expected, the researchers also found significantly more K-ras mutations in the treated tumours than in the untreated, but showed that the cancer drug itself did not cause the mutation.

"The outcome of this study reinforces what we already knew: responses to these anti-angiogenic approaches are not simple, and we need to look at this in many different environments and scenarios to try to understand what really might be go-

ing on," she says. "It's all about deciding what's the best therapy for an individual patient."

She cautions that the study uses an artificial system and is focused on just one factor among many variables that influence individual responses to cancer therapy. The next step is to establish collaborations to find out whether the same thing is happening in clinical trials involving people.

"The tumour is an ecosystem, and it evolves. As long as we can be aware of that, pay attention and understand it, we will be able to solve the problems this causes and the issues it raises."

Coomber is co-director of the Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation based at OVC. Created in 2007, it provides cancer care for companion animals and enables University of Guelph researchers to study the disease in animals and humans alike.

"Although colorectal cancer is not a problem in the veterinary world, with certain types of cancers, we are in a position here at Guelph to look at naturally occurring tumours in animals, study their biology, try interventions and see the outcomes, then go back and re-examine our thinking about how these cancers work," she says.

"That's how cancer therapy and research evolve, from laboratory to bedside and back again."

The research was supported by a grant from the Canadian Cancer Society.

## JANE BURPEE

Manager of reference and literacy in the McLaughlin Library, joined U of G in 2003

When Jane Burpee moved to Guelph in 2003, she rediscovered photography as a hobby.

"I've been taking pictures since I was a kid, but it wasn't until I came here that my love of photography really came alive," she says. "For me, photography is a format to capture random moments and document the joy I'm experiencing as I celebrate life."

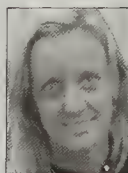
Today, she's never without a camera and is always on the lookout for her next great shot. Her favourite subjects are people. "I love eyes and showing how beautiful people are."

She also celebrates life through music. Many of her friends are musicians, and she loves going to see live music. One of the next events she'll be attending is Hillside Inside, to be held Feb. 2 at the Sleeman Centre. She's especially looking forward to seeing the Abrams Brothers perform.

"They're great. One of the guys is 15 or 16 and an amazing violinist. I'm excited about seeing them play again."

Although she's not ready to hit the stage herself, Burpee is learning to stretch her own vocal range and hit the right notes. This began one night last fall when one of her friends encouraged her to take to the mic and belt out a tune at a jam session. Although she was hesitant, she obliged.

"It was totally addictive. You can't stop me from singing now."



Jane Burpee

## DAVID JOSEPHY

Faculty member in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, joined U of G in 1983

Since 2000, Prof. David Josephy has been helping to keep an important life raft afloat. That's when he became a member of the Life Raft Group, an international organization that provides support to those living with gastrointestinal stromal tumours and raises funds and awareness to work towards a cure. He joined after his sister-in-law was diagnosed with the rare cancer.

Josephy is part of a six-member science team and is



David Josephy

also the Canadian liaison for the group, which has members in more than two dozen countries. "It brings together my professional and personal interests," he says.

Over the past few years, the disease has gone from being an incurable condition to one that now has therapies to treat it and improve the quality of life for patients, he says. "It's been an extraordinary venture for me."

Later this year, he will visit his brother, a math professor at the University of Costa Rica, and his sister-in-law at their home in San José.

Getting involved in issues he feels passionately about is nothing new for Josephy, who grew up in Ottawa and recalls carrying a picket sign at an anti-nuclear demonstration alongside his parents at the age of six.

Locally, he's federal vice-president of the riding executive of the Guelph NDP and has been active in organizing campaigns and canvassing. He was also part of the group that encouraged Prof. Tom King, English and Theatre Studies, to run for office, he says.

## TOMMY LAU

Fifth-year student in political science

Over the next six weeks, Tommy Lau will be busy ensuring that this year's Central Student Association elections, slated for March 10 to 14, run smoothly. As chief electoral officer, Lau will be organizing all-candidates meetings and making sure polling stations are well marked and staffed and that campaign teams are following all election rules. In addition, he'll be working hard to make sure students understand the value of their vote.

"I was a candidate last year, and as a political science student, I am interested in elections and electoral systems in general," he says. "I like challenges and am excited about this opportunity. My goal is to create more awareness and accessibility so quorum can be higher and students more participatory. A lot of issues candidates bring affect students, and it's important for students to select the person they feel best represents their interests."

If Lau had to vote for his favourite styles of music, they would be hip hop, R&B and soul.

"Music, especially by artists like Mos Def and Common, gets me through the day," says Lau, who frequently checks out YouTube.com in search of clips from Def Poetry, a showcase of urban poetry and spoken word.

This self-proclaimed "sports junkie" also relaxes by working out at the Athletics Centre and playing intramural basketball and soccer. On Feb. 3, he'll be rooting for the New York Giants as they vie for the Super Bowl championship against the New England Patriots.



Tommy Lau



## YOUR PREFERRED

### Group Auto & Home

## INSURANCE PROGRAM

**Save Up To 50%**  
In Insurance Product Discounts  
*plus*  
**Your Group Discount!**

**Call today for a no-obligation quote**



Toll Free  
**1-800-482-0822**

Local  
**519-836-5700**

Or visit our website at  
**[www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)**

Waterloo Insurance  
A member of The Economical Insurance Group  
Visit us at [www.economicalinsurance.com](http://www.economicalinsurance.com)



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

Exercise bike, rarely used, excellent condition, Ext. 52998 or lsouthwe@registrar.uoguelph.ca.

Free-standing adjustable-height basketball net, Ext. 56116.

Duke Brown bicast leather sofa; black and yellow Fox dirt biking gear: knee/elbow pads, chest protector, jersey, pants, adult size small; Fox boots, size 6; two Fox helmets, Khatera, 519-826-4199 or khatera@ontario.ca.

## FOR RENT

Cottage in Southampton for summer season, sleeps four, gas fireplace, private treed lot, close to lake, walk to harbour, river, downtown and golf courses, Melody, Ext. 54337, 519-836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom bungalow in Exhibition Park area on quiet street, appliances, finished rec room, storage, close to schools, parks and bus, \$1,250 a month plus utilities, 519-826-9928.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or funmoll@rogers.com.

Two-bedroom second-floor apartment in quiet older semi, partially furnished, balcony, close to Exhibi-

tion Park, parking, separate laundry, storage, suitable for quiet single or couple, non-smokers, no pets, \$975 a month plus hydro, Wilfred, Ext. 54023 or wilfred@pr.uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom renovated century farmhouse in Belwood, 25 minutes from campus, large kitchen, family room, 1½ baths, available early February, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, references required, 519-843-3720 after 6 p.m.

## AVAILABLE

Experienced bandy woman to maintain and repair your home or will provide training to enable you to do it yourself, Myra, 519-835-6048 or inhomdetails@gmail.com.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 519-836-8086 or cdeimmers@uoguelph.ca.

## WANTED

*To Truly Know and Understand Animals*  
Get to know things from the animal's perspective.

**Claudia Hehr,**  
Animal Communications  
Specialist, Author,  
Speaker, Coach.

Private consultations, tele-classes,  
seminars, group discounts.  
[www.claudiahehr.com](http://www.claudiahehr.com)  
Tel.: 705-434-4679

from May to August, camps focus on science and engineering and computer science and technology, application deadline is Feb. 25, visit [www.creativeencounters.net](http://www.creativeencounters.net) for information.

Female staff member with pet looking for one-bedroom apartment or mature roommate to share accommodations for April 1, preferably within walking distance to campus, parking required, Ext. 53689.

Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to [l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca).

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 3G6

(519) 831-7800  
Fax (519) 821-7810

For information about  
paid advertising in *At Guelph*,  
contact Scott Anderson at  
519-827-9169 or  
[theandersondifference@rogers.com](mailto:theandersondifference@rogers.com).

**D & D GRANITEWORX INC.**

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
[graniteworx@bellnet.ca](mailto:graniteworx@bellnet.ca)



(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available

**DOWNTOWN GUELPH**  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

519 **836-3810**

[www.guelphmontessori.com](http://www.guelphmontessori.com)

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts
  - Swimming
  - Musikgarten
  - Skating
  - Yoga
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers



*"Within the Child Lies  
the Fate of the Future"*  
Dr. Maria Montessori

**Guelph  
Chamber  
Choir**

**Guelph  
Chamber  
Choir**

GERALD NEUFELD  
conductor

and

**DaCapo  
Chamber  
Choir**

LEONARD ENNS  
conductor

*Choral Gems*

**MARCH 1, 2008 8 PM**  
**St. George's Anglican Church, Guelph**

*Two of southern Ontario's finest choirs join forces to present old and new versions  
of some of the best music for choirs*

TICKETS:

\$20 adult • \$10 student • \$5 **eyeGO.org**

Order by phone 519-763-3000 or toll-free 1-877-520-2408 or on-line at [www.riverrun.ca](http://www.riverrun.ca)



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

Opening Feb. 2 at Theatre in the Trees is *The Love List* by Norm Foster. Directed by Bud Brennan, it runs weekends until April 26. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. For tickets, call Ext. 54110.

The DuffleBag Theatre presents *Sleeping Beauty* Feb. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Tickets are \$5. For information, call Ext. 52358.

Arboretum gardener Lenore Ross leads daylong workshops on growing perennials from seed Feb. 14 and 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are due Jan. 31.

Ann Estill leads a workshop on "Tips and Tools for Beginning Storytellers" March 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$35. Deadline for registration and payment is Feb. 15.

## CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues Jan. 31 with the Middlesex Singers and Feb. 7 with the Creative Electronic Music Trio, featuring Prof. James Harley, Brent Lee and Jesse Stewart. On Feb. 14, Shawn Mativetsky and Pamela Attariwala perform on tabla and violin. Concerts start at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107.

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre presents "In Performance" featuring visual artist and pianist Michael Snow and percussionist Jesse Stewart Feb. 8 at 8 p.m. Admission is \$20 general, \$16 for students and seniors.

## FILM

"Docurama," a film series sponsored by the U of G Library and the Central Student Association, presents *Without the King* Jan. 30, *The Chances of the World Changing* Feb. 6 and *My Country, My Country* Feb. 11. The free screenings begin at 7 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

## NOTICES

An ecumenical Ash Wednesday service will be held Feb. 6 at 12:30 p.m. in UC 442. Everyone is welcome.

The TransCanada Institute and the School of English and Theatre Studies present *The Cowboy and the Geisha*, a multi-media production by Hiromi Goto and David Bateman, Feb. 5 at 11:30 a.m. in McLaughlin Library 384.

The College of Biological Science is calling for nominations for its 2008 Award for Excellence in Teaching. All members of the University community are invited to nominate a faculty member or a teaching team or group in CBS for this award.

Nomination forms are available in the offices of department chairs and should be submitted to the dean of CBS by the first week of March.

## SEMINARS

The School of English and Theatre Studies presents George Lipsitz of the University of California, Santa Barbara, discussing "Footsteps in the Dark: Music and Meaning in the Midnight Hour" Jan. 31 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 226.

"Globalization and Identity: Europe and Beyond" is the focus of Patricia Goff of Wilfrid Laurier University in the European studies speaker series Jan. 31 at 4:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 228.

The microbiology graduate student seminar series presents Sarah Ouster discussing "Regulation of Glycosyltransferases Involved in Core LPS Biosynthesis in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*" Feb. 1. On Feb. 8, Salim Islam considers "Cell Surface Saccharide Synthesis in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*: The Wzx Flippase and Its Role in O-Antigen Production." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

"Dissection of Signalling Pathways Regulating Plant Architecture" is the topic of Daniel Riggs of the University of Toronto Feb. 4 in the seminar series hosted by the plant biology group in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology. Guest speaker Feb. 11 is Brendan McConkey of the University of Waterloo. The seminars begin at 3:30 p.m. in science complex 2315.

Next up in the Department of Physics seminar series is Joseph Sanderson of the University of Waterloo discussing "Coulomb Imaging of Molecules With Intense Femtosecond Laser Pulses" Feb. 5. On Feb. 12, John Whitehead of Memorial University explains "Phase Behaviour in Ultrathin Magnetic Films." The seminars begin at 4 p.m. in science complex 1511.

Café Scientifique, hosted by the Faculty of Environmental Sciences in partnership with the Bookshelf, continues with Prof. Jonathan Newman, Environmental Biology, examining "Conservation and Biodiversity" Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. in the Bookshelf Green Room.

The Department of Psychology's neuroscience and applied cognitive seminar series hosts Mertice Clark of McMaster University considering "Proximate Mechanisms of Paternal Care: Liking, Wanting or Bonding?" Feb. 6 at 3:30 p.m. in Rozanski 105.

Ruth Sandwell of OISE presents a general rural history of Canada from 1870 to 1950 at the Rural History Roundtable Feb. 11 at 3:30 p.m. On

Feb. 15, Joy Parr, Canada Research Chair in Technology, Culture and Risk at the University of Western Ontario, discusses "Unsettled: Woods, Meadows and Memory of North Atlantic Alliances at Gagetown" at 2:30 p.m. Organized through the Canada Research Chair in Rural History, the talks are held in the OAC Boardroom.

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology seminar series presents John Brumell of the Hospital for Sick Children discussing "Mechanisms Used by *Salmonella* to Direct Their Intracellular Fate" Feb. 13 at 2 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Full details and a registration link for Teaching Support Services programs can be found on the TSS website at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

TSS's new-faculty luncheon series continues Feb. 4. Discussion will focus on "Wired Professors . . . Issues in Online Teaching and Learning."

The professional development series for teaching assistants focuses on "Teaching in a Multicultural Environment" Feb. 5, "Engaging Students: How Not to Be Boring" Feb. 6, "Documenting Your Teaching in a Dossier" Feb. 12 and "Effective Grading" Feb. 13. A peer micro-teaching session for TAs is slated for Feb. 11.

TSS educational development associate Mary Wilson and Prof. Byron Sheldrick, chair of the Department of Political Science, will lead an open discussion on course credit weighting Feb. 6.

For instructors currently running an online Blackboard course, TSS offers a hands-on session titled "Blackboard: Surveys and Mid-Semester Feedback" Feb. 6. Drop-in Blackboard clinics continue to run Wednesdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and Thursdays from 2:30 to 4 p.m. Blackboard advice is also available at Ext. 52530.

SOS (Supporting Our Sessionals), a biweekly discussion series where sessionals can share innovative teaching methods and philosophies, runs Feb. 13. New members are welcome to join at any time.

Peter Saunders of Oregon State University leads an online seminar on "Assessment as a Learning Experience" Feb. 13.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Julia Blanco-Chavez, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is Jan. 30 at 9:30 a.m. in

Pathobiology 101. The thesis is "Characterization and Expression of the Equine Chitotriosidase Gene." The adviser is Prof. Dorothee Bienze.

The final examination of Thomas Walsh, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program, is Feb. 4 at 9:30 a.m. in Landscape Architecture 143. The thesis is "Decentralization and Natural Resource Management: New Opportunities for Communities in the Upper Jeneberang Watershed, South Sulawesi, Indonesia." The adviser is Prof. Harry Cummings.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Anibal Castillo, Integrative Biology, is Feb. 5 at 2 p.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "The 4R Genome Duplication in Salmonine Fishes: Insights From Conserved Non-Coding Elements." The advisers are Profs. Moira Ferguson and Roy Danzmann.

The final examination of Shannon Edison, a PhD candidate in the Department of Psychology, is Feb. 8 at 2:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 229. The thesis is "Parenting Children With Selective Mutism: An Exploration of Parenting Behaviours and Their Relationship With Individual, Child and Contextual Factors." The adviser is Prof. Mary Ann Evans.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra led by Simon Irving presents "Northern Lights" Feb. 17 at 3 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The program will feature works by Grieg, Rimsky-Korsakov and Sibelius. For tickets, call 519-763-3000.

The Exhibition Park Neighbourhood Group's annual Winterfest is Feb. 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. The afternoon will feature games, free skating, a figure skating demonstration, musical entertainment and refreshments.

The Guelph Field Naturalists will meet Feb. 14 at 7:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Guest speaker Prof. Ernesto Guzman, Environmental Biology, will discuss "The Decline of the Honeybees."

Guelph Public Library, the oldest public library in Ontario, celebrates its 125th anniversary this year. The official anniversary ceremony is Feb. 9 at 1:30 p.m. at the main branch. The afternoon will feature a slide show, music by the Suzuki Strings, a behind-the-scenes library tour and the unveiling of a commemorative sculpture.

Guelph and Wellington County Master Gardeners hold their annual garden conference, "A Day in the Garden," Feb. 24 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. at the Guelph Turfgrass Institute. This year's theme is "Three

Abundant Species." OAC graduate Frank Kershaw, former director of parks for Toronto, will discuss ornamental grasses. Bob Leask, founding member and past president of the Ontario Hosta Society, will talk about hostas. OAC graduate Jack Kent, who runs the Potting Shed, will discuss daylilies. For more information and to reserve tickets, send e-mail to [mgguelph@hotmail.com](mailto:mgguelph@hotmail.com).

The Guelph Concert Band presents "Tubby the Tuba and His Dancing Friends" Feb. 24 at 3 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The program will include a variety of family-friendly movie and dance favourites. An instrument petting zoo will be held during intermission. For tickets, call 519-763-3000.

The Hillside Festival's first winter event, Hillside Inside, runs Feb. 2 from 1 to 11 p.m. at the Sleeman Centre. Tickets are available from the University Centre programming office in UC 266, the Guelph Visitor and Information Centre, the Hillside Office and by calling 1-866-598-4455.

The Guelph Civic Museum presents "125 Years of Improving Life: The History of Homewood Health Centre" until April 13. The travelling exhibit "Child's Play: A Century of Toys 1850s to 1950s" runs until March 16.

McCrae House holds a Valentine's Day tea Feb. 14 at 2 p.m. Reservations are required at 519-836-1221.

The Professional Writers Association of Canada presents freelance writer and columnist Kira Vermond discussing "Make (More) Money With Freelance Writing" Feb. 12 at 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 227. For more information or to register, send e-mail to [charmian.christie@gmail.com](mailto:charmian.christie@gmail.com).

Wellington County Museum and Archives hosts a Heritage Day Festival Feb. 10 from noon to 4 p.m.

The Theatre Guelph production of *Schoolhouse* by Leanna Brodie runs Feb. 8 to 17 at the River Run Centre. Call 519-763-3000 for ticket information.

The Guelph Historical Society's lecture series continues with "The Cold Hand of Charity and Other Niagara Tales" Feb. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Andrew's Church.

The Guelph Little Theatre production of *A Bedfull of Foreigners* by Dave Freeman opens Feb. 7 and runs weekends until Feb. 23. For tickets, call 519-821-0270.

Kitchener-Waterloo Little Theatre is hosting a one-act play weekend Jan. 31 to Feb. 2 at St. Jacobs Church Theatre in St. Jacobs. For ticket information, visit [www.kwlt.org](http://www.kwlt.org).



**INSIDE: A MASTER PLAN FOR ATHLETICS • MORE WATER WITH YOUR ICE? • FLYING AWAY HOME**

## Six to Receive Honorary Degrees at Convocation

900 degrees and diplomas to be awarded during nine ceremonies

**S**TEPHEN LEWIS, one of the world's most influential speakers on human rights, social justice and international development, will receive an honorary degree during winter convocation, which runs Feb. 19 to 22 in War Memorial Hall.

U of G will also present honorary degrees to Lorne Babiuk, a world leader in the development of vaccines to control diseases in farm livestock; Leonard Conolly, an internationally regarded scholar in the studies of George Bernard Shaw; Wade Davis, a noted anthropologist and ethnobotanist; Alastair Gillespie, a former minister of the Crown; and John Sleeman, a nationally recognized business leader for his success with Sleeman Breweries Limited in Guelph.

In addition, retired pathobiology professor Bruce Wilkie and population medicine professor Wayne

Martin will be named University professor emeriti.

Some 900 degrees and diplomas will be awarded during convocation week, beginning Feb. 19 at 10 a.m. with a ceremony for the College of Biological Science. Prof. John Klironomos, Integrative Biology, will address the graduating class.

At a second ceremony for CBS at 2:30 p.m., Davis will receive an honorary doctorate of science and give the convocation address. He has lectured and written a number of books based on his work as an anthropologist observing and analyzing the customs, beliefs and social relations of indigenous cultures in North and South America. He is currently a board member of the David Suzuki Foundation, Ecotrust, Future Generations, Cultural Survival and Rivers Canada.

The College of Physical and Engineering Science ceremony begins at

7 p.m., with Prof. Serge Desmarais, associate vice-president (academic), addressing the graduands.

Two ceremonies will be held for the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences Feb. 20. In the morning, president Alastair Summerlee will give the convocation address. In the afternoon, Lewis will speak and receive an honorary doctorate of laws. Best known for his international efforts to bring attention to the AIDS crisis in Africa, he served with the United Nations over a span of more than two decades. He is currently co-director of AIDS-Free World and founder and head of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, a charitable organization aimed at helping people affected with HIV/AIDS in Africa.

Gillespie will receive an honorary doctor of letters degree and address students graduating from the Col-

*Continued on page 10*



### Academic Overtones

Prof. Doug Larson, Integrative Biology, has built about 40 guitars as an amateur luthier but never one quite like this. Homegrown in many ways, his new instrument evokes stories connected to U of G research and scholarship. See story on page 8.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Wildeman to Head Windsor

VP (research) named sixth president and vice-chancellor at University of Windsor

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**P**ROF. ALAN WILDEMAN, vice-president (research), has been appointed the sixth president and vice-chancellor of the University of Windsor. His five-year term begins July 1.

"Alan is a valued friend and colleague who has contributed great leadership, innovative research and excellent teaching to this university for more than 20 years," says president Alastair Summerlee. "Although we are sorry to see him go, he is leaving us to accept a challenging and prestigious appointment. I know the entire Guelph community will join me in wishing him the best of luck in his new position."

Summerlee lauds Wildeman for his dedication to U of G, especially his commitment to advancing research initiatives; to networking with the provincial and federal governments and industry; and to fostering innovation in faculty, staff and students.

"The University has experienced major growth in its research activities during Alan's tenure," says Summerlee. "And his strong leadership and guidance in facilitating this



Prof. Alan Wildeman

growth while also managing a highly complex research portfolio have played a major role in our success."

The Office of Research mandate includes managing some \$149 million in annual research funding. Wildeman was first appointed VP (research) in 2001 and was reappointed in April 2007. During this time, U of G was named Canada's No. 1 comprehensive research university four times and was listed as the top comprehensive university for six straight years in the annual "Top 50 Research Universities" list.

Wildeman joined U of G in 1985 as a faculty member in the then De-

partment of Molecular Biology and Genetics. He has held a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council Industrial Research Chair in biotechnology, was director of the Food System Biotechnology Centre and was Guelph's lead participant in the original Ontario Genome Project.

"The University of Guelph has been a part of my life for a very long time and, because I'm an alumnus, it will continue to be so," he says.

"I have worked with scholars — faculty, staff and students — from all corners of our university and never cease to be amazed at their creativity. Our reputation is because of them. I am equally proud of all the people in the Office of Research and the many ways their dedication contributes to the success of the University. Although the departure from Guelph is very significant for me, I am truly excited about the opportunities ahead at the University of Windsor. It's a vibrant university in a city that also cares deeply about its post-secondary institutions."

Summerlee says he will ask Senate to begin the process of searching for a new VP (research) and expects to appoint an interim VP shortly.

## Province Supports Facilities Renewal

Funding will help complete priority projects, do upgrades

**U**OF G HAS RECEIVED \$8.1 million from the province to improve and upgrade campus buildings and facilities. The funding is Guelph's share of a \$1.4-billion investment in strategic infrastructure that was unveiled last fall.

The announcement was made Jan. 29 by Guelph-Wellington MPP Liz Sandals on behalf of John Milloy, minister of training, colleges and universities.

U of G will use the funding to complete priority projects related to utilities conservation and campus safety, make upgrades and improvements to existing facilities, and reduce planned borrowing. The projects are all identified in Guelph's multi-year campus infrastructure renewal plan. They include restoration of the exterior of Macdonald Institute, upgrading of classrooms, re-roofing of various buildings, lighting retrofits, water-reduction initiatives and the replacement of outdated fire alarm systems.

"We are delighted to receive confirmation of this targeted funding for facilities renewal as it will help us address some of the critical items on our campus," says president Alastair Summerlee. "The Liberal government pledged to give higher education more prominence in the budget, and this investment is proof of that commitment. It also recognizes the connection between universities and Ontario's economy. I am thankful for the involvement of Liz Sandals and Minister Milloy, who recently visited our campus and expressed his support for our efforts."

Milloy, who was named minister in January, says the funding will create better and safer learning environments for students and is an important investment in tomorrow's workforce. "This funding is part of our government's overall strategy to invest in the people of Ontario through strategic infrastructure improvements and new-job creation."



Pianos, books,  
lessons & more! 519.836.8492

218-A Victoria Rd. S.  
Guelph, Ont.  
N1E 5R1  
fax: 519.836.9474  
www.theoctavemc.com



**GOURMET MARKET**

**WHY NOT SURPRISE  
YOUR VALENTINE?**

**WE HAVE HOT MEALS & OVEN-READY  
ENTREES READY FOR PICK-UP**

**Gift Certificates Also Available**

**GUELPH POULTRY MARKET**

Kortright just off the Hanlon  
570 Kortright Plaza

**519-763-2284**

Mon.-Wed. 9-7  
Thurs.-Fri. 9-8  
Sat. 9-6  
Sun. Closed

## FEBRUARY LAMINATE FLOORING EXTRAVAGANZA

8.3 mm Laminate Flooring  
4 colours to choose from  
Reg. 1.29 sq. ft.  
Only 99 cents sq. ft.

**FIND MANY OTHER SPECIALS!**  
Run to Rona Cashway  
Guelph Store Only



55 Dawson Road, Guelph  
519-821-5744

## MONTESSORI

**SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON**  
established 1996



- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR  
SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**

(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
www.montessori-school.ca

# Plan Provides Blueprint for Athletics on Campus

BY TERESA PITMAN

**B**URSTING AT THE SEAMS isn't good when you're trying on summer beachwear, and it's not good when you're talking about athletics and recreational programs, either.

"We noticed a couple of years ago that we were filling up all our programs, with no space to expand," says Tom Kendall, U of G's director of athletics.

Although a too-tight bathing suit requires only a trip to the store, when a university's athletics programs are being outgrown, the remedy is a little more drastic. Kendall and a steering committee representing all stakeholders contracted Sasaki Associates, Inc., a Boston company with expertise in designing athletics facilities, to assess the situation.

"At the end 14 months later, we had a master plan," says Kendall.

The plan builds on both the University's master plan and the Arboretum master plan.

Because the consultants worked closely with the steering committee, there were no surprises, he says.

"They were so thorough, and they did a great job of listening to everyone's concerns. Any problems we had were worked out long before the final report was put together."

The goal, he adds, was to develop activity centres to serve the most people as effectively as possible.

Kendall says the final document creates a vision that will take years to

complete. When the full plan is realized, the southeast section of campus will have changed significantly.

Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs), notes that the plan deliberately creates a community in the southeast section of campus, which has been identified as an area in need of enhancement. The plan calls for expansion and enhancement of Reynolds Walk. The expanded walkway will connect the rest of the University to the Arboretum.

Kendall echoes Whiteside's emphasis on creating community.

"We want to reduce the isolation of athletics from the rest of the campus. The new spaces won't be just a place to work out, but will also be a place to relax with a cup of coffee, do your homework, meet your friends — a place people will want to go to."

Two concepts that were kept front and centre during the design process were more light and more space, he says.

"The buildings we're planning will have lots of natural light and lots of open space. People will be able to see others doing activities, creating more interest in participating."

The plan, 180 pages long, has been through the University's approval process and presented to Board of Governors, but don't look for the construction equipment to roll onto campus any time soon. The proposal is designed so it can be implemented in phases. The task now is to begin determining the phasing

priorities, says Kendall.

"We won't move forward until we're sure we can finance and operate the new buildings. Right now, we're looking at what people want and what we can afford. We need to find donors and develop partnerships, so I don't know how long it will be before we actually see the changes begin. I'm hopeful that everyone will want to be a part of it and that they will see it as a legacy for the future."

Although no "start date" has been set, the plan identifies a few projects as priorities. Playing fields with artificial surfaces rather than natural grass are badly needed because of how heavily they're used, he says. And the Athletics Centre, built in 1941, needs to be either refurbished or torn down and replaced — whichever route proves cheaper.

"I think this is going to be quite exciting for students," says Kendall. "We have one of the biggest intramural, recreational and varsity athletics programs in the country, so this gives us the chance to keep building on that."

He also sees the development as essential for the University's future.

"We know other universities are building and expanding their athletics facilities, and we know that these are important to attract and retain students. In addition, we also recognize the importance of a healthy lifestyle for student success. These changes will allow us to continue to be leaders in student support."

## You've Got Mail — and a Date

**F**OLLOWING AN EVALUATION of potential e-mail and calendar systems for U of G, two committees made up of representatives from Alumni Affairs and Development, the College of Arts, the U of G Library, the President's Office and Computing and Communications Services (CCS) have chosen a product called Zimbra.

"Zimbra is at the forefront of today's technology," says CCS associate director Jim Lennie. "It will give us a true web interface that allows for full functionality from anywhere, whether you're at home or on campus. It will also provide significant options for individual users, along with superior support for mobile devices."

Zimbra's web-based software will integrate views of users' mail, calendar and address book and will be available campus wide to all staff,

faculty and students, says Lennie. It will provide an enhanced level of tools such as the ability to drag and drop or stretch calendar events; easily look up free/busy times, rooms and resources; view multiple schedules as different colour "overlays" in a single calendar; share calendars with others within or outside the University community; and delegate calendar access to others.

E-mail enhancements will also include significantly larger quotas along with improved spam and virus filtering and performance.

"Any one of these things would offer an improvement, but taken together, they represent a big step forward for the University and will significantly enhance our collaborative environment," says CCS associate director Bo Wandschneider. "We received great feedback from the community on their needs, and

we believe Zimbra is the best system to meet and exceed community expectations."

CCS will begin an extensive pilot of the system this month with broad community involvement, including mobile users, a complete work group, technical users and students, says Wandschneider. Once the pilot is completed, CCS will host open houses and clinics to give members of the University a first-hand look at Zimbra before its staged implementation begins in the spring, he says.

With the migration to Zimbra, calendar data currently on the Oracle Calendar system will move over to the new system, and all existing e-mail addresses will remain the same.

To learn more about Zimbra and to track its progress on campus, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/about/projects/email\\_cal/index.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/about/projects/email_cal/index.shtml).

at GUELPH

**Editor** Barbara Chance  
b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Design** Peter Enneson

**Production** Linda Graham  
l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Advertising** Scott Anderson  
theandersondifference@rogers.com

**Director** Chuck Cunningham  
c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca

At Guelph is published every two weeks  
by Communications and Public Affairs,  
Level 4, University Centre, University of  
Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.

Inquiries: 519-824-4120

Editorial: Ext. 56580

Distribution: Ext. 56581

Advertising: Ext. 56580

[www.uoguelph.ca/adguide](http://www.uoguelph.ca/adguide)

Classifieds: Ext. 56581

Fax: 519-824-7962

Website: [www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph](http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph)

Articles may be reprinted  
with credit to At Guelph.

**Subscriptions**

\$25 (includes GST);

\$30 outside Canada

ISSN 0836-4728



# TALKS GO TO MEDIATION

Since November 2006, U of G's faculty, librarians and veterinarians, who voted to unionize in 2006, have been engaged in negotiations with the University towards a first collective agreement. Bargaining has reached an impasse, and the parties have agreed to mediation with an external mediator, William Kaplan has been appointed, and the process has begun. The parties are focused on preparing briefs to be submitted to the mediator and the other party by Feb. 19. Kaplan will meet with the parties Feb. 22 and March 8 to 12. At his request, the University and the U of G Faculty Association have agreed to a media blackout. This means there will be no verbal, written or electronic communications, including e-mails and postings on websites, on the positions of the parties or progress of mediation until March 13.

# A FAMILY-FRIENDLY DAY

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre is hosting a full day of free family-friendly events on Family Day Feb. 18. The morning features snow sculpting in the Donald Forster Sculpture Park from 10 to 11:30 a.m. and a guided painting lesson using examples from the art centre's collection of Group of Seven paintings from 11 a.m. to noon. In the afternoon, events include a session on performance art from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and printmaking from 3 to 4 p.m. The day wraps up with a behind-the-scenes tour of the art centre. For more information, call Aidan Ware at 519-837-0010.

# TURN TO WEB, LOCAL RADIO WHEN WEATHER IS BAD

When a winter storm hits and you need to know if the University is open before setting off for school or work, the best information sources are the local media and U of G's website. For more information, see the University's hazardous weather policy online at [www.uoguelph.ca/hr/hrmanual/512.htm](http://www.uoguelph.ca/hr/hrmanual/512.htm).

# NOMINEES SOUGHT FOR EXEMPLARY STAFF AWARDS

President Alastair Summerlee is calling for nominations for the President's Awards for Exemplary Staff Service. The awards recognize employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and/or who have made significant contributions to the University community beyond what is expected of their positions. Nomination deadline is May 31. For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/president/exemplaryservice](http://www.uoguelph.ca/president/exemplaryservice) or contact Claire Alexander at Ext. 53098 or [calexander@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:calexander@exec.uoguelph.ca).

# IN MEMORIAM

A funeral was held Feb. 9 in Amherstview for Renée Palmer, a fourth-year student in studio art and philosophy, who died Feb. 2 in Kingston after a three-year battle with cancer. She is survived by her parents, Colette and Michael, and a younger brother, Leif.



Prof. Lawrence Spriet is working with members of the Guelph Storm to test the impact of dehydration on their on-ice performance.  
PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

# More Water With Your Ice?

CBS prof's research among first to look at dehydration rates in elite hockey players

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

PROF. LAWRENCE SPRIET, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, has to strap on his ice skates to do his current research. He's testing how dehydration affects the performance of elite hockey players — and what better way to do that than on the ice?

Using players from the OHL Guelph Storm team, Spriet is measuring the on-ice performance of players when they're properly hydrated compared with when they're dehydrated. He's also measuring the effects of dehydration on the body, including core temperature and heart rate. He's doing the testing at the Sleeman Centre in downtown Guelph before and after practices.

Spriet's research, which is among the first to look at the dehydration rates of hockey players, has recently captured media attention, with a number of national newspapers and TV news stations coming out to the rink to catch his field study in action.

The current testing is a followup to previous research that found about one-third of elite hockey players are significantly dehydrated while on the ice. Those findings are based on a three-year study that tested the dehydration rates of players on the Canadian World Junior teams from 2005 to 2007.

"It's thought that hockey players don't suffer from significant fluid loss through sweating as much as elite athletes in other sports do because they play in cooler temperatures," says Spriet, who worked on the study with PhD student Matt Palmer. "But in reality, they sweat more than some athletes because arenas aren't that cold, they wear heavy equipment and helmets, and the game requires high-intensity bursts of skating."

The study, which is to be published in *Applied Physiology, Nutrition and Metabolism*, was funded by the Gatorade Sports Science Institute of Canada and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. It included 44 players who were tested during practices.

The pre-practice hydration status of the players was estimated through their urine, and the sweat rate was calculated based on the difference in their weight before and after practice and taking into account the amount of fluid they drank while on the ice. Sodium loss was calculated through sweat patches worn on the players' foreheads during practice, as well as through their sweat rates.

Spriet found that more than 50 per cent of the players began practice mildly dehydrated and that, on average, players voluntarily replaced only 60 per cent of their sweat loss.

"But what was more alarming was that about one-third of the players lost between one and two per cent of their body mass in sweat during the practice. That's a concern because at that level of dehydration, you're probably hurting your on-ice performance. The players think they are drinking enough, but they don't realize the magnitude of sweat loss."

Previous research suggested that losing one to two per cent of body mass through sweat can impair athletic performance, but this theory has yet to be proven in hockey players, he says.

"Sweating excessively without fluid replacement can limit performance because it decreases the plasma volume portion of the blood, which then impairs the body's ability to meet the blood flow needs of the contracting muscles. This also makes it more difficult for the body to circulate heat away from the core to the skin, where it dissipates. This causes the core temperature and heart rate to rise, leading to feelings of fatigue."

Spriet has conducted similar dehydration testing on the NHL New York Rangers and the Toronto Raptors, then helped players adjust their liquid intake to ensure they're getting enough fluids.

"Being properly hydrated is just one more thing elite athletes can have in their arsenal."

# people

# WATER MANAGEMENT EXPERT TO CHAIR ADVISORY PANEL

Prof. Rob de Loë, Geography, holder of the Canada Research Chair in Water Management, has been chosen to chair an advisory panel aimed at finding global solutions for freshwater preservation, conservation and access in Canada and around the world. The panel is funded by the RBC Blue Water Project and will help the project develop a strategic approach to its activities, recommend key program assessment criteria, review project proposals and identify water-related issues, trends and developments. The seven-member panel is made up of water experts and community and aboriginal leaders from across North America.

# RUGBY GRYPHON CHOSEN FOR NATIONAL SQUAD

U of G student Michelle Joslin has been named to the Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) women's rugby squad for the 2008 Federation International du Sport World University Rugby Championships taking place July 16 to 19 in Cordoba, Spain. The CIS squad was chosen based on performances at a competitive training camp held in Ottawa in early January. This past weekend, Joslin went to San Diego, Calif., with the national team to participate in the prestigious U.S. Invitational Women's International Sevens Tournament.

# ASSOCIATE EDITORS NAMED

Two faculty members in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics have been appointed to the editorial boards of major international journals. Prof. Monica Cojocaru has been named an associate editor of the *Australian Journal of Mathematical Analysis and Applications*. Prof. Anna Lawnicka has been appointed an associate editor of the *Journal of Cellular Automata*.

The following appointments were recently announced at the University:

- Mark Britton, energy management technologist, energy and utilities, Physical Resources
- Keith Brohman, agricultural worker, Research Station Operations, Office of Research
- Gale Bozzo, assistant professor, Department of Plant Agriculture
- Liz Cherry, graduate secretary, Department of History
- Diane Dobbins, manager, research and partnerships, College of Management and Economics dean's office
- Larry Fisher, physical plant manager, Kemptville Campus
- Stanley Gabriel, special constable, Campus Community Police, Fire Prevention and Parking Services
- Jessica Martin, distance education examination co-ordinator, Office of Open Learning
- Barb Murphy, awards financial aid clerk, Student Financial Services, Office of Registrarial Services
- Quin Shirk-Luckett, analyst II, Computing and Communications Services.

appointments

# Winegard Nominees Sought

U OF G, IN PARTNERSHIP with the United Way of Guelph and Wellington and the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington, is calling for nominations for the second annual William Winegard Exemplary Volunteer Involvement Awards.

Created last year in honour of former U of G president Bill Winegard, these awards recognize the significant community involve-

ment of a U of G student, staff and faculty member.

Winegard came to U of G three years after its founding in 1964 and served as president until 1975. He remains active in the Guelph community through volunteer involvement.

Award organizers are calling for nominations of current U of G staff, faculty and students who have devoted significant time and effort

through volunteer involvement with community organizations.

Nomination packages are available online at [www.volunteerguelph.wellington.on.ca](http://www.volunteerguelph.wellington.on.ca) and should be submitted by March 20.

The awards will be presented April 3 in preparation for National Volunteer Week, which runs April 27 to May 3 and will focus on the theme "From Compassion to Action."



# Flying Away Home

Arrival of epidemiologist gives wings to plans to strengthen U of G's poultry research

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**W**HEN PROF. Michele Guerin, Population Medicine, was a wannabe vet growing up in Burlington, she had all kinds of animals at home — dogs, guinea pigs, fish, turtles. But not as many as she would have liked: her dad was allergic to cats, for example. And she never had any birds.

Today as a recently hired faculty member at her alma mater, Guerin will have access to all the birds she can handle. Beginning this winter, the epidemiologist's faculty position is being sponsored by the Poultry Industry Council of Canada (PIC). That organization, representing producers of broiler and breeder chickens, egg layers and turkeys, is keen to help strengthen U of G's poultry research and teaching programs. The industry is worth about \$9.5 billion a year in Canada, with 40 per cent of that based in Ontario.

"I will be working closely with the Poultry Industry Council to make sure my research fits in with issues of importance to the industry," says Guerin, a former practising veterinarian who started her faculty position in December after completing her PhD last year.

Those issues include food safety, animal welfare and biosecurity (disease management on and off the farm). Whether it's studying ways to raise *Campylobacter*-free broiler chickens or investigating the health of cage-raised birds, she expects to help the PIC address its recently revamped research priorities.

She'll work with the council's poultry program team, which includes poultry specialists from the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs as well as Profs. Shayan Sharif, Pathobiology, and Grégoire Bédécarrats, Animal and Poultry Science.

The team plans to support Ontario's poultry industry through studies and teaching in poultry health and welfare, production and management, economic and environmental issues, and food quality and safety. Much of that PIC-funded research involves faculty in the Ontario Veterinary College and the Ontario Agricultural College.

Tim Nelson, executive director of the Arkell-based PIC, says the industry needs experts to help understand disease outbreaks and control their spread. A 2004 outbreak of avian flu in British Columbia cost that province's poultry industry about \$350 million.

"They're still cleaning up after



Prof. Michele Guerin is working closely with the Poultry Industry Council in her new position. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

the last outbreak in Saskatchewan," says Nelson, referring to a bird flu strain found on a farm in that province last year. "The time for recovery is huge."

Guerin also belongs to Guelph's Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses. Based at OVC, the centre brings together campus researchers and external agencies to study animal diseases that affect public health, such as avian flu, SARS and West Nile virus.

"This is where I wanted to be — I love the University and OVC," says Guerin, who was completing her doctorate here more or less as the PIC was posting its requirements for a poultry epidemiologist.

She hopes to conduct the kinds of studies she got involved in during her PhD with retired professor Wayne Martin. Funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, they studied *Campylobacter* in Iceland, which had suffered a disease outbreak in humans in the late 1990s.

Based in the capital, Reykjavik, in June 2004, Guerin visited numerous broiler chicken farms to observe practices and pinpoint problems. She says some farmers have altered practices based on their work, including paying more attention to drinking-water treatment and farm hygiene as well as slaughtering chickens at a younger age.

She also worked with Martin on her master's degree, studying *Salmonella* bacteria in chickens, turkeys, cattle and pigs in Alberta. That work combined animal and human health as well, as Guerin looked for connections between clusters of cases in people and animals.

As a Guelph DVM student in the early 1990s, she planned not to study but to practise. And that's what she did after graduating in 1993, working in small-animal clinics in southern Ontario. She enjoyed surgery and practice, especially advising clients in ways that often helped save animals' lives. "I really felt like I made an impact."

At the same time, some things had become too routine in the clinic. And the practitioner felt disheartened whenever she ran across a pet owner who didn't share her own feeling for the animal. Now preparing her research and teaching program here at Guelph, she expects to find herself back in the field.

Today she still has no pet birds at home. She's been without a pet for a year ever since her cat, Zoey, died at age 15. Glancing at a photo of the black and white cat in her office, she says: "It's taken that long before I can think about getting another one."

In her spare time, she keeps busy with sports, especially hockey in a women's league in Guelph. Her position? A winger, naturally.

# Prof Sounds Alarm on Forensic Tool

Neuroimaging less accurate than believed, study finds

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**T**ECHNOLOGY THAT CAN monitor brain activity is moving into the world of forensic investigation faster than it should, says Prof. Dan Meegan, Psychology.

In a first-ever analysis of the research on "Brain Fingerprinting" and other neuroimaging techniques, he has found that the technology hasn't been proven reliable enough to determine whether someone is guilty or innocent of a crime.

"There's a huge amount of interest in this technology coming from the legal community, and if it's being used to determine whether people are innocent or guilty, then it's important that we find out if these techniques are reliable," says Meegan, who specializes in memory-related research.

"From a scientific perspective, I can tell you that these techniques aren't ready."

Brain Fingerprinting is currently being used in criminal investigations in the United States and has even been accepted as evidence in court.

The technology involves attaching electrodes to a suspect's scalp and then monitoring how the brain reacts to certain stimuli, such as photos or words, related to a crime scene that only the person who committed the crime would know. The brain produces different electrical signals based on whether the person recognizes the stimuli or not. These signals are captured by the electrodes and analyzed.

Similar testing can be done with magnetic resonance imaging technology, where blood flow in the brain is used to determine whether the brain recognizes — or has memory of — certain stimuli.

Investigators and attorneys then use the test results as evidence to support a person's guilt or innocence.

This technology received significant media attention after the attacks on the World Trade Center because it was viewed as a potential tool for identifying people who were planning terrorist attacks or had knowledge of future attacks, says Meegan. At the time, he assumed critics of the technology would eventually come forward, but that never happened.

"After watching all the media publicity this technology received, I immediately thought of some of its limitations. I kept waiting for scien-

tists in the field to step forward and argue that more work needs to be done before this technology can be used in the field, but that never happened, so I decided to take it upon myself."

Meegan's research, which was published in the January issue of *American Journal of Bioethics*, found that the level of accuracy of neuroimaging techniques is not as high as believed.

"There is evidence of a substantial risk of the technology failing to catch people who are guilty, so results that find a person innocent are completely meaningless," he says.

He also found that a majority of the research conducted on the accuracy of this technology was done in a lab setting, where the researcher has more control over the circumstances and subjects than would be possible in a real criminal investigation.

"With an actual investigation, there are a number of factors that can influence a person's ability to recognize — or have memory of — certain details."

In some cases, weeks or even months will pass before a suspect is identified, he says.

"Researchers don't wait months to do tests, and this time lapse is important to consider because it can hinder people's memory of the crime and their ability to recognize certain stimuli."

In lab settings, researchers can control which stimuli they want a subject to remember by showing it to the person in advance of the test. But when a person is committing a crime, he or she isn't often taking mental notes of the surroundings and may not be able to remember certain details of the crime, says Meegan.

In addition, suspects can be under the influence of drugs when committing a crime, which can impair their ability to remember details.

There's also an element of high emotion when a crime suspect is taking the test compared with a participant in a lab study, and this emotion can affect results, he adds.

"There needs to be more research done involving circumstances that mimic a forensic investigation before neuroimaging can be established as a reliable tool. Until then, scientists need to put the brakes on using this technology in actual investigations."

# Premier's Research Chair to Discuss 'New Agriculture'

**P**ROF. AMAR MOHANTY, U of G's Premier's Research Chair in Biomaterials and Transportation, will give his first public lecture Feb. 27 at 5:45 p.m. in Room 1714 of OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre.

Mohanty, a former Michigan State University professor and an international leader in the field of

biomaterials, will speak on "The New Agriculture: The Journey for a Sustainable Bioeconomy" as part of the Ontario Agricultural College's public lecture series.

Mohanty joined U of G in the fall following an international search. The University was awarded the \$3-million Premier's Research Chair

as part of the Ontario Research Chairs program, which was established to create a culture of innovation and to strengthen Ontario's economic advantage.

Biomaterials is a fast-growing research area that focuses on revolutionizing the use of agricultural products to develop novel products

for industrial uses, ranging from car parts and building materials to fuel.

As the Premier's Research Chair, Mohanty will encourage the innovation of new cost-effective bio-based consumer products and technology, and will liaise with government, industry and other universities. He will engage in and support interdisciplin-

ary research in chemical and structural engineering, agricultural chemistry, plant biology, and traditional and molecular plant breeding.

He will also serve as director of the Bioproducts Discovery Centre, a facility planned for the southeast end of campus that will be the hub for the University's bioproducts research.



# Not So Black and White

English prof's stateside studies of Canadian lit turn up surprises about race relations back home

BY TERESA PITMAN

**L**ET'S SAY YOU WANTED to study Canadian literature as a grad student. Almost any Canadian university would be a logical choice, but for Prof. Jade Ferguson, English and Theatre Studies, that seemed too easy.

"I decided to go to Cornell University because I thought studying Canadian literature there would be an interesting challenge."

Interesting, definitely. So was the timing: Ferguson arrived in the United States just three weeks before the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"As a result, the first few years I was there, I not only got an academic education but I was also getting educated about what it meant to be a non-white person entering the United States. This included being detained overnight by Homeland Security on one occasion."

Ferguson found her first couple of years in the States difficult. She says that, like most of us, she tended to think of Canadians as being much different from Americans.

"In particular, when it comes to racial issues, we see ourselves as different from Americans, especially those in the Deep South. After all, Canada was the promised land for blacks, whereas the American South was where blacks were enslaved."

That point of view was challenged when Ferguson, who earned her BA at the University of British Columbia, began her studies south of the border.

"Because I was with people who



Prof. Jade Ferguson has looked at race issues from both sides of the Canada-U.S. border.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

knew nothing about Canada, who were coming from an American perspective, they were skeptical. Americans talk about slavery and racial violence as part of their history much more openly than Canadians do. And my professors pushed me to do research on race relations in Canada in the 19th and early 20th centuries."

Her research uncovered some surprising material: documents and photos of Ku Klux Klan groups in Hamilton and mock lynchings in Alberta.

"We like to see ourselves as the pacifist peacekeepers of the world,

but this contradicts that belief. Obviously, the racial violence that has defined white and black relations in the South has also defined and continues to define white supremacy in Canada in some way."

As she continued to examine the writings of Canadian and southern authors of that period, Ferguson found the connection was even deeper. "In fact, my research showed that Canadian writers corresponded with and influenced southern writers and vice versa."

She cites as an example Nova Scotia writer Thomas Haliburton.

Haliburton's humorous stories about Sam Slick were entertaining but also conveyed his beliefs about the need for a hierarchical society — with blacks at the bottom, she says. He believed that if the slaves were freed, the white working class would be put in jeopardy.

His books were extremely popular and sold in the United States as well as in Canada, says Ferguson. Mark Twain described Haliburton as his favourite childhood author and made references to Haliburton's work in *Tom Sawyer* and other writings.

"So clearly we didn't just absorb these attitudes from the South — we also affected and influenced them."

This became the theme of Ferguson's doctoral dissertation, which she is currently revising and intends to publish as a book. Meanwhile, she's come back to the country she left for graduate school.

"I never thought I'd come back to Canada, but I knew that if I did, the University of Guelph would be my first choice. I wanted to be somewhere with interesting undergraduates, a place that wasn't just about educating but also about preparing students to have an ethical and political way of living in the world — to be agents for social change. We have that at Guelph."

When she's not on campus, Ferguson likes to listen to music, especially hip hop, and she uses that interest when she's teaching.

"I look at hip hop as a social movement, something that's constantly evolving and global in scope. It's this generation's poetry."

She hopes to teach a course she developed at Cornell called "Hip-Hop Revolution" at Guelph in the near future.

Although turning her thesis into a book is already under way, Ferguson is definitely not planning to do the stereotypical English professor thing and write a novel.

"I don't have a creative bone in my body," she says, laughing. "Writing a novel would be an incredibly painful process. I like to read novels, but that's it. Writing one is never going to happen for me."

## Across a Network Without a Wire

Computer scientist receives funding for new lab to study wireless networks, mobile technologies

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**P**ROF. NIOAL NASSER, Computing and Information Science (CIS), got his wife's distress call on a Friday afternoon late last fall. Their 15-month-old son was being taken to hospital from their Etobicoke home. Cancelling an appointment in Guelph, Nasser headed eastward along Highway 401, but he endured 90 minutes of stop-and-go traffic before reaching the hospital.

His son turned out to be fine. But there'd been moments along the way when Nasser wished he'd had a better system than the radio and overhead highway signs to help him avoid traffic hot spots. Such a system might consist of a wireless sensor network like the ones he'll study in a new lab being installed this year at Guelph through a \$274,000 grant.

Funded by the Canada Foundation for Innovation — and matching provincial money and private funds — the planned Wireless Network Laboratory will allow Nasser and his collaborators to study potential applications such as security, human health, agriculture and biology.

He's interested in two related topics, both based on wireless networking and mobile computing. One involves developing networks of wireless sensors; the second, designing seamless communication across wireless technologies.

"Wireless networks and mobile systems have become a hot topic," says Nasser, who arrived at Guelph three years ago from PhD studies at Queen's University. "Nobody can work without a cellphone or a mobile device."

What might be done with a collection of wireless sensors that beam information to a central computer? Seated in his Reynolds Building office, Nasser ticks off the ideas.

Dropping devices that monitor movement or climatic conditions into remote or inaccessible areas might benefit anyone from the military to search-and-rescue operations to scientists. Or imagine a tiny sensor that a patient might swallow, allowing a doctor to track its path through the body and diagnose a health problem.

Other sensors might track animal

movement and behaviour for wildlife biologists located wherever Internet access allows. A farmer might rely on devices attached to field crops to gauge harvest time without leaving the computer monitor in the house or barn.

*"Wireless networks and mobile systems have become a hot topic. Nobody can work without a cellphone or a mobile device."*

Or, thinking about that recent drive home, Nasser suggests a system to monitor traffic flow and alert drivers to road conditions. "At least I would have known where the bottlenecks were."

He and his graduate students are interested in the big picture, looking at how sensors communicate among themselves and with a central computer.

"We're focusing on the whole network. We need to figure out all the protocols, like how to use sensors with an optimum amount of power."

Nasser studies the network's computing smarts while a U of G engineer works on the hardware, notably penny-sized computer chips.

He's also using the CFI funding for equipment needed to work on seamless communication across different mobile technologies. Ever dropped a call on your cellphone while leaving or entering a building? He hopes to improve communication across heterogeneous wireless systems such as a wireless local area network (WLAN) inside a building and the wireless cell network outside.

That work involves tradeoffs. Wireless cellular networks, for instance, provide wide coverage but low data transmission rates. A WLAN does the opposite. Nasser hopes to offer information that helps providers and consumers find the optimum balance between competing needs.

His research team will also explore WiMAX (Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access), a relatively new technology that offers high-speed Internet access over a wireless connection. Nasser says this idea may benefit university campuses and cottage owners alike. He also thinks it provides a way to deliver distance education, particularly for areas lacking Internet access.

Although other researchers are looking at aspects of wireless sensor networks, few are studying heterogeneous wireless networks, he says. Even industry providers look to university research to understand the field and gain ideas for designing or improving products.

The computer scientist himself took a different form of distance education on his route to Guelph. He studied in Kuwait before coming to Canada to attend Queen's.

Here at U of G, Nasser is working with seven graduate students who are exploring theory and simulations. He hopes to be running the new equipment by the fall.



# Chance to Save a Life Motivates Prof

CBS researcher investigates defective protein in rare neurodegenerative disorder that affects children and is ultimately fatal

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**T**HERE'S LITTLE THAT is more motivating for researchers than to know their work could one day save lives. That is, unless they have the chance to actually meet the people whose lives they might save.

Prof. Frances Sharom, Molecular and Cellular Biology, can put names and faces to the people she's trying to help with her latest research on Niemann-Pick Type C disease (NP-C), a rare neurodegenerative disorder that affects children and is ultimately fatal.

The renowned cancer researcher has turned her expertise towards unlocking the mystery behind a protein that is defective in NP-C.

"I have met families with children

who are suffering from NP-C," she says, "and that really brings it home when you see the harsh reality of the disease and the impact it has on the people who are affected. This is not some scientific problem—it's real."

Sharom became involved in this research project just over five years ago when she was contacted by the Ara Parseghian Medical Research Foundation (APMRF), a volunteer organization dedicated to funding research to find a treatment and cure for NP-C and related neurodegenerative disorders.

The foundation is named after Ara Parseghian, former coach of the University of Notre Dame football team, who had three grandchildren die from NP-C. APMRF funds more

than 20 research groups across the globe, and each one is focused on a specific area of the disease.

"I am just one piece of the puzzle," says Sharom. "There are a number of other research projects in progress, covering many aspects of NP-C from molecular biology to animal studies. The foundation is willing to fund relatively risky research and take chances on the fact that it may take years to come up with results. They do this because there really is no other choice."

About one in every 200,000 children is born with NP-C. Because the disease is so rare, it's difficult to study and it's even more difficult to run clinical trials, she says.

So far researchers have been able to determine that the disease inter-

feres with the body's ability to handle cholesterol. As a result, fatal amounts accumulate in the liver, spleen and brain.

"If the cholesterol is not moved around inside the cell properly, it backs up in a compartment called the late endosomes and causes the cell to malfunction and die," says Sharom.

This buildup of cholesterol causes the child to lose intellectual function and motor skills and suffer from progressive liver failure and lung complications. Those affected deteriorate so quickly that most don't live past their teenage years.

Researchers are now trying to better understand the function of the NPC protein, which is a large membrane protein involved in normal

trafficking of cholesterol inside the cell, in an effort to reveal what the defect is in someone with NP-C.

This is where Sharom comes in. She's studying the NPC1 protein at the molecular level to determine its exact role.

"The work I've done on membrane transport proteins related to cancer is helpful in looking at the involvement of NPC1 in this disease. We know the protein is defective, but no one knows much about what it normally does inside the cell. The APMRF is supporting our research effort because we are one of only a few research groups working on the actual protein at the molecular level."

To date, she and her team have managed to isolate the protein in amounts large enough for biochemical studies. Using radioactive and fluorescent cholesterol molecules, they have also found that it can bind cholesterol tightly. The extremely low water solubility of cholesterol makes this work very challenging technically, she says.

"The next step is to find out what the NPC1 protein does with the bound cholesterol. We need to search for potential 'partner proteins' that can accept cholesterol from NPC1."

By adding fluorescent colour to the protein, Sharom is studying the movement and function of the protein.

"No one knows why this disease happens because no one knows what the protein is doing, and if you want to correct the protein, you need to know what it does. We do know it's clearly an important protein because when it doesn't work, it can be fatal."

This is tedious and slow-moving research, but Sharom says the project is one of the most gratifying she's ever worked on.

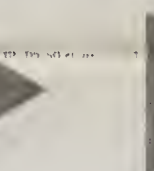
"It's challenging but very exciting. We're doing things that no one else is able to do, and we're making progress. When I think about the parents of these children and how desperate they are for a cure, it definitely pushes me to do the best I can."



**STOP**  
IN AT H&R BLOCK



**FAST**  
TAX PREP



**START**  
SPENDING

**Students, come in for your tax preparation and get instant cash back in just one visit.**



come in today or call  
1-800-HRBLOCK (472-5625)  
[www.hrblock.ca](http://www.hrblock.ca)



**H&R BLOCK®**

To qualify for student pricing, student must present either (1) a T2202A documenting 4 or more months of full-time attendance at a college or university during 2007 or (2) a valid high school identification card. Expires July 31, 2008. Must also qualify for Instant Cash Back and Cash Back products. See office for details. \*Valid only at participating H&R Block locations in Canada. SPC Card offers valid from 08/01/07 to 03/31/08 at participating locations in Canada only. For Cash Back only. Offers may vary. Restrictions may apply. Usage may be restricted when used in conjunction with any other offer or lesser loyalty card discounts. Cannot be used towards the purchase of gift cards or certificates.

OPTOMETRISTS  
**GOEMANS & ASSOCIATES**

**Dr. Donna Goemans**  
**Dr. Paul Goemans**  
**Dr. Doris Hrvatin**  
**Dr. Tiffany Tang**  
Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED**

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,  
Laser Surgery Consultation

570 Kortright Rd. W, Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**

Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible



# profile

## Learning à la Carte

*Fine-dining instructor puts students through courses at campus teaching restaurant*

BY REBECCA KENDALL

**A**S I SIT DOWN with Simon Day in the dining room of PJ's Restaurant in the Atrium to talk about his career and the unique restaurant courses he's taught for the past five years at U of G, he says there's something I need to see first. He leads me to the kitchen, where I'm introduced to sous chef and U of G graduate Renée Lauzon and shown around.

"This is the cleanest kitchen you'll ever see," says Day, who joined the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) as an operations management and fine-dining instructor in 2003. "We have very high standards about how it's kept, and students have to buy into that."

PJ's is a teaching restaurant where third-year students can apply their multidisciplinary study of management in planning, purchasing, storage, production, marketing and service. U of G students have been getting this kind of hands-on experience since 1980, when the original HAFA Restaurant opened. After undergoing major renovations and expansion, it reopened as the Atrium Restaurant in 2003 and was renamed PJ's two years later in memory of Paul J. Phelan, the modern founder of Cara Operations Limited, one of Canada's largest hospitality companies.

"Lunch and dinner are served several days a week in the 85-seat dining room. In addition, the restaurant serves as a living laboratory for research in nutrition education and menu-item development in food service. It has earned the Eat Smart! Award several times for its commitment to high-quality food and food safety."

"I don't think the University community knows we're here and how fantastic this restaurant is," says Day.

Students in the fine-dining course are required to prepare six-course meals from a menu they design themselves, and students in the restaurant operations course have free rein over creating their own one-day restaurants. The result is a different restaurant and menu Tuesday to Friday in both the fall and winter semesters.

"They're like snowflakes — no two are ever alike," he says.

The restaurants are managed by student teams of four, who oversee everything from the theme and design of the menu to decorating the dining room, making purchase orders, marketing their restaurant and assigning front- and back-of-house jobs to the remaining 24 classmates, who must create each dish from scratch.

"Nothing comes prepackaged," says Day. "If they're making chicken soup, they're making their own stock using chicken bones. If they want to use pasta, they mix the semolina, bread flour and eggs themselves. Everything we serve is made in-house, which is incredibly rare to find."

Running a restaurant for the first time can be very stressful, says Day, adding that teamwork, organization, co-operation and communication are the keys to success.

"Having each of their classmates responsible for one part of the work flow lessens the anxiety. It's like killing a very small ant with a very large hammer."



And how does he measure success?

"As with judging a meal, it is relative to taste, so it's a hard thing to do. We're grading the organization and how much energy they're bringing to this class. There are some restaurants that struggle and there are some that are like a symphony, and that's what the grade is based on."

Since arriving at U of G, Day has graded close to 350 student restaurants and sampled more than 3,000 of their gastronomic creations. Past concepts have run the gamut of geographically and culturally inspired restaurants, whereas others have been more whimsical in nature.

"There's no limit to the creativity I've seen over the years," says Day, recalling a time when PJ's was turned into an Alice in Wonderland restaurant and last semester when two teams used Dr. Seuss as their muse.

The Calgary native wishes he'd had such flexibility when he was starting out. He took kitchen classes in high school and accepted his first cooking job right after graduation. One of his high school instructors had been hired as a sous chef at a new Delta Hotel and was asked to bring in eight apprentices. Day was one of the aspiring chefs he selected.

"Only two of us were left after two years. It's a tough industry, and looking back, I'd say it was a difficult apprenticeship. If I'd been older and had more wits about me, I wouldn't have put up with as much as I did."

With chef papers in hand by the age of 20, he spent the next two decades working as an executive chef in North America, Europe and the Caribbean. Although he enjoyed the work, he decided to retire in 1999.

"Anyone in the industry knows that being a chef takes up all your time. It takes all your energy. It takes everything. When other people are enjoying their evenings out, that's when you're working. I think chefs just naturally have to be workaholics to get the job done. After 22 years, I had an epiphany and I thought I needed a change."

Over the years, Day had taken some computer classes on the side, including a programming course, and thought that instead

of creating meals, he would craft Java script for GPS devices. It was a nice change of pace, he says.

"I enjoyed doing it because nobody knew I was a chef. I just answered the phones and did Java. It was a lot of fun, and it allowed me to prove to myself that I could be successful in another field. I needed that. Once that item was crossed off my list, I knew I could return to the kitchen."

(Two other items on his life list — becoming a husband and father — have also been crossed off. Day and his wife, Nadine, were married in 2003, and they have two children: Grace, 4; and Miles, 2.)

In 2002, Day accepted a teaching position at Liaison College. "I'd never considered teaching before, especially on a full-time basis, but when the call came, I thought I'd give it a shot."

The following year, he was at his cottage when he spotted a newspaper ad for an instructor position at HTM. "I was excited thinking about teaching at a university. Guelph's reputation has always been strong, and I went for it."

Since then, more than 1,500 students have passed through his classroom, and he tries to keep in touch with as many of them as he can.

"The great thing about working here is that we see students grow as they get into the industry. I like to see where they're going and how well they're doing."

This semester, he's getting a unique look at one of his former students — 2006 graduate Matt Duffy — on *Chef School*, a reality TV show that airs on the Food Network Tuesdays at 10 p.m. and Sundays at 11 p.m. The series follows the trials and tribulations of 12 culinary students as they strive to achieve success at the Stratford Chefs School.

Duffy, whose third-year restaurant used chocolate as its theme, credits Day for teaching him a lot about the food-service industry and pushing him to get his feet wet by beginning an apprenticeship while still an undergraduate. Although hesitant, Duffy followed that advice.

"It was probably the best decision I made at university," he says. "I can't express how many doors have been opened as a result of the apprenticeship and the school's restaurant course. At the time, I didn't realize how valuable these things were, but when I got into the industry, I saw how far ahead I was of a lot of other people."

Duffy remembers Day as a strict but caring instructor who prepared students for working in the demanding and unrelenting world of cuisine.

"He's a good teacher. He has a good connection with students, and he cares about what we're doing. When I prepared my first dinner in Stratford, he even made the trip down to attend."

Duffy plans to return the favour by driving to Guelph to attend a dinner this semester. "I feel like I owe it to myself and to the school."

For more information about PJ's, including daily menus for the winter semester, visit the website [www.atriumrestaurant.uoguelph.ca](http://www.atriumrestaurant.uoguelph.ca).

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE



519-824-4120  
Ext. 58031

Portable and Affordable

### Banner Stands

Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand



Large Format Printing By  
**Roland**

Banner-Up Retractable

[www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)



### Your local travel agency.

We guarantee you the best personalized services  
And most economical prices.  
We're just a phone call away.

519-824-6001 / 1-800-795-4995 / E-mail - [ctravel@mgl.ca](mailto:ctravel@mgl.ca)  
[www.consumertravelcenter.ca](http://www.consumertravelcenter.ca)  
255 Speedvale Ave. W., Guelph, ON N1H 1C5

For information about paid advertising in

**At Guelph, call Scott Anderson at 519-827-9169.**



# A Guitar With a Guelph Twang

Ecologist-cum-luthier's current project strikes academic overtones — call it an 'integrative biology' guitar

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**S**TART WITH CHUNKS of wood salvaged from windfall trees. Add a tiny fish fossil, pieces of stone, shells of turtles and mussels, bits of ivory and ancient cedar — even mink penis bones — and what have you got? It's a made-in-Guelph guitar, one that its maker hopes will play music and tell tales.

For the past year, Prof. Doug Larson, Integrative Biology, has collected and crafted seemingly disconnected items into an acoustic guitar meant to evoke stories connected to U of G research and scholarship and to area history.

Glancing at pieces of the partly assembled guitar laid out on his basement workbench at home in Guelph, he says: "This is an instrument to talk about history. It's not just a guitar but a great storytelling device."

An ecologist by day, he is an after-bours musician and amateur luthier whose current project brings his total of handmade "Larsons" to about 40 instruments. Like those earlier one-of-a-kind models — most of them still close to hand in his rehearsal and recording space beside the workshop — this new guitar is made of numerous items collected and stored away by this inveterate packrat.

But there's something different about this one. Most of its parts relate somehow to U of G, including items collected from several colleges on campus. Even for the pieces he's gathered from around the city or beyond, Larson traces their roots to Guelph scholarship in biology, physical science, social sciences and the arts. Call it an "integrative biology" guitar.

Or call it a Guelph-made version of the storied Six String Nation guitar. That instrument — built by Nova Scotia luthier George Rizsanyi from 60 pieces of Canadiana ranging from Pierre Trudeau's canoe paddle to Lucy Maud Montgomery's house — was brought to Guelph last year by CBC radio host Jowi Taylor to help christen U of G's science complex atrium.



A fish fossil, shell, ancient stone, windfall wood — they're all part of Prof. Doug Larson's made-in-Guelph guitar. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Larson had organized that visit and a downtown concert featuring the Six String Nation. From there, it was only a short leap to making this new instrument, one with academic overtones.

Every part on Larson's workbench comes with an anecdote. He crafted the back and neck of the guitar from a chunk of a sugar maple tree that fell about a decade ago behind McNally House, former home of the dean of the College of Biological Science. Larson says that tree had been planted nearly a century ago by an OAC gardener.

The instrument's front soundboard is made of Norway spruce, salvaged from a tree that blew down last year on Johnston Green. That tree also had century-old roots, having been planted as part of an earlier planned arboretum for that part of campus.

For a woodworker, windfalls really are windfalls, Larson says.

Other pieces came from colleagues who sent wood from damaged trees: black walnut from a Brantford relative of Gord Miller, Larson's former graduate student and now environmental commis-

sioner of Ontario; American mahogany rescued after a hurricane 10 years ago in Florida; and rosewood from trees felled by hurricane Katrina in Louisiana. (Those last two pieces came from botanist and collaborator Jack Fisher at the Fairchild Tropical Garden in Miami.)

Larson made interior braces for the instrument's back from an American beech tree at Cruickston Park in Cambridge, where he's done extensive fieldwork with students for most of his tenure at Guelph. Heel and neck blocks on the front and the instrument's bridge plate came from butternut and plum trees from retired professors.

Other parts include American chestnut — evoking the American chestnut recovery project involving U of G botanist Brian Husband — and yew from the Parkwood Estate in Osawa, former home of U of G Library benefactor Sam McLaughlin.

Larson could fill an hour's lecture talking about the guitar's decorative touches alone. Its purfling, or ornamental border, includes inlaid pieces

of modern and ancient cedars that relate to his studies of ancient dwarf cedars. Normally he doesn't use ancient cedar in his guitars, but "I can't have all these stories to be told without the ancient tree story," he says.

The decorative rosette around the sound hole is made from ultra-thin slices of bundled wood strips dyed with coloured inks and glued into place. They form a multi-coloured design containing a repeated "G" motif all the way around the sound hole. Also in the rosette are inlaid strips of metasequoia or dawn redwood — one from a Guelph tree planted by retired phycologist Joe Gerrath, the other from a tree that grew tens of millions of years ago in what is now the Canadian Arctic.

From integrative biology professor Ron Brooks, Larson got turtle shell scutes that he's glued together into a comma-shaped pick guard for the instrument's soundboard. Unlike so-called "tortoiseshell" pick guards made of plastic on commercial instruments, "this is real turtle shell" — or at least the translucent

keratin that covers the bony plates on a turtle's shell.

Ornamentation and evolution meet in the guitar's fingerboard, which Larson is still fashioning separately from the neck piece. The frets are marked with rectangular pieces of stone and bone inlaid with epoxy into the wood. Among them are a piece of sandstone containing a fossil fish from the Axelrod Institute of Ichthyology, ancient pieces of slate from Chalmers United Church and limestone from Johnston Hall, part of a snapping turtle's backbone, deer bone and a bit of mussel shell.

As for the tiny penis bones he received from a zoologist whose class dissected minks last year, Larson plans to set those in the neck of the guitar.

Most recently, he came away from the OAC dean's office with a real prize. That leather desk blotter embossed with the OAC crest (and stained by numerous coffee cups) will make a dandy guitar strap.

Larson is still looking for U of G parts, particularly items that represent research and scholarship in academic units. (The guitar's only store-bought parts will be the strings.)

Still unnamed, the instrument may be completed in time for Larson's annual "Botany of the Guitar" lecture on campus in the spring. But maybe not. Having spent hours and hours on the project already, he is reluctant to rush to the end.

He has no idea how the instrument will sound, particularly because it contains some kinds of wood he's never used before. But it's what the guitar says, not what it sings, that will matter, he says.

"This is the most challenging and fun woodworking project I've ever done. Even if it doesn't sound good, it's going to be pretty. It's going to totally rock."

Larson also plans to write a book about the project, including the stories and scholarship it evokes.

"It's an object as a lens to history. You see history through it."

## AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date	Deadline
Feb. 27	Feb. 19
March 12	March 4
March 26	March 18
April 9	April 1
April 23	April 15
May 7	April 29
May 21	May 13
June 4	May 27
June 18	June 10

## Forum to Focus on Food, Nutrition, Human Health

**U**OF G WILL HOST the 2008 Campbell Lecture, a mini-symposium dedicated to promoting nutrition education, March 3 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre. The event is free and open to the public.

"The goal of the Campbell Lecture is to provide a forum to bring together students, faculty, staff and the public to learn more about the role of food and nutrition in human health and well-being," says Prof. David Ma, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, who is helping to organize this year's event. "Food and nutrition and their role in human health and disease are receiving growing awareness."

This interest has fostered collaborative research projects among departments and disciplines across campus, as well as with agencies such as the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Advanced Foods and Materials Network.

The 2008 Campbell Lecture features a special focus on careers in the food, nutrition, agriculture and health industry sectors. A 10 a.m. panel discussion will explore "How to Get an Industry Job: Expectations and Challenges."

At 11 a.m., Laurie Drozdowski, medical affairs manager for Mead Johnson Nutritionals, will discuss "Transitioning From Research to In-

dustry: A Career in Disseminating Nutritional Information to Colleagues, Health-Care Professionals and Consumers." At 2 p.m., Marco Di Buono, director of research for the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Ontario, will present "From Labs to Boardrooms: How to Apply the Learnings of Graduate Training in the Life Sciences Outside of Academia." Both speakers will also participate in a 3 p.m. panel discussion.

To register for the event, send e-mail to [jtishins@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jtishins@uoguelph.ca).

The Campbell Lecture series was created with a bequest from Elizabeth Campbell as a memorial to her husband, 1936 OAC graduate James Alexander Campbell.



## ANDY ROBINSON

Faculty member in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science since 1994

When Prof. Andy Robinson bought a small farm last year with his family, he was pleased to find the property came with a workshop. The outbuilding has been christened "Andy's World" in recognition of the fact that Robinson spends a lot of time there. He says it's the perfect place to work on things he's restoring.



Andy Robinson

The biggest restoration project on his plate, however, is the farm's stone house, built in 1840. "The house has a lot of character," he says. "Much of the stonework and woodwork is original and in good shape, so I have a solid base to work from."

Robinson's goal is to keep it looking authentic but to make the house more efficient as a home for his family. The barn is another project, but it will need more work than the house, he says.

He and his wife had been looking for a country property where they could keep their daughter's horse. When their real estate agent took them to see this one, Robinson says the couple had decided as they drove up the driveway that if the house wasn't actually falling down, they were buying it. It was love at first sight.

Besides working on buildings, Robinson restores other items. His 1971 Triumph 650 Tiger motorcycle was a long-ago gift from his brother-in-law that is slowly being brought back to life. "It's missing a few key pieces, so it won't pass a safety check yet," he says.

He also discovered a 1917 Peterborough canoe in the garage of his family's cottage.

"It's canvas over cedar. I went to the Canadian Canoe Museum hoping to find another one like it, but there were none of this type. It turned out that my canoe was actually older than anything they had in the museum. It has a very unusual profile, with an upswept stem and stern like the old birchbark canoes."

Part of the appeal for Robinson, who enjoys learning the old construction techniques that are needed for restoration, is that the canoe has been in his family for so long. "I have a photo of my great-uncle in it when it was brand new."

## FRANNY MCCABE-BENNETT

Fourth-year theatre studies student

"I wasn't really planning to be the director," says Franny McCabe-Bennett of her role with Curtain Call Productions this year. With her extensive musical background — she's been taking singing lessons since Grade 6 and acting in plays and musicals since Grade 7 — it seemed only natural to get involved with Curtain Call, a Central Student Association club that puts on a musical during College Royal Weekend. But singing, not directing, was her original plan.

In her second year, McCabe-Bennett had the lead in Curtain Call's *Once Upon a Mattress*, then was vocal di-



Franny McCabe-Bennett

rector of *Urinetown* last year. This year, she's directing *Zombie Prom* — described as a 1950s horror comic book brought to life as a musical comedy.

It's taken a full year to get the zombies to sing and dance. Work began last summer as McCabe-Bennett and other executive members chose the musical they'd put on and continued through the fall with casting and preparation. In January, there have been rehearsals twice a week for everyone, with some roles requiring practice three or four times a week. The show will run for four performances March 13 to 15 in War Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$10.

McCabe-Bennett is also involved in planning something new for Curtain Call Productions — *Zombie Prom the Prom*, a dance to be held Feb. 29 in Peter Clark Hall.

After many years of singing, McCabe-Bennett says her work as vocal director and director has helped her find a new passion for teaching vocal skills. "I'd never done any teaching before, but when I was doing some one-on-one coaching of cast members last year, I realized that I really enjoy it." Now she's providing private singing lessons to several students.

Although the intense time commitment required for *Zombie Prom* has meant cutting back on her own singing performances this year, she is also a member of U of G's Women's Choir and sang with the Chamber Choir last year.

Whether it's classical, Broadway-style musical or contemporary, McCabe-Bennett is confident that song and music will always be part of her life. "I'm part of a very musical and artistic family, so it just seems to fit."

## WENDY JESPERSEN

Manager of events and communications in Alumni Affairs and Development since 2007

Although it's been cold outside, Wendy Jespersen has been finding ways to heat up her spare time. The former competitive dancer heads to a dance studio once a week to take a jazz class. It took some time to find a class that was suitable for her age and skill level when she moved to Guelph in 1996, she says. She also took tap for three years and was disappointed when the studio cancelled the class in September.



Wendy Jespersen

"There weren't enough people to go ahead with it," says Jespersen. "That's the problem. There are lots of options for adults who want to take a basic dance class, but intermediate-level classes are more difficult to find."

One class that is going strong is her "hot yoga" class at the Athletic Club. Besides doing standard yoga training, Jespersen recently stumbled across this "steamier" version and has become hooked.

"They heat up the room to somewhere between 35 and 45 C, and everyone's sweating. The theory is that the heat allows you to do the yoga postures more deeply and effectively, and you get more out of it."

Since starting yoga, she has noticed improvements in her flexibility and in her core and back strength, which are also important for dance class.

"The benefits are enormous. As I get older, I appreciate how important it is to take care of myself."

# LABash Comes Back to Its Roots

Annual conference for LA students runs Feb. 21 to 24

U OF G IS HOSTING LABash08, an annual conference for landscape architecture students from across North America, Feb. 21 to 24.

The conference was started in 1970 by three Guelph students and, since then, has been held at close to 40 universities in Canada and the United States. This year marks the fifth time U of G has hosted the event.

"Generations of landscape architects from across North America fondly remember their LABash experiences as being important to their professional development and just a great time to meet students from many of the other 70 schools," says Prof. Maurice Nelischer, associate director of the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development.

"Guelph's international reputation as one of the leading landscape

architecture schools is due in part to its continued involvement in LABash. Through the hard work of our student volunteers, we will again host more than 800 students who will take back positive impressions of the University."

The theme of this year's three-day event is "Frontiers of Landscape Architecture." The conference will include two dozen speakers who will focus on the different frontiers of the profession, projects, technologies and the environment.

Lecture and workshop topics include green roof design, urban growth and the value of countryside, making the most out of garbage, regreening cities, low-impact and green approaches to development, and integrating digital technology into landscape architecture.

For more information, visit [www.labash08.com](http://www.labash08.com) or send e-mail to [labash08@hotmail.com](mailto:labash08@hotmail.com).

## THEATRE STUDIES DEGREE INACCESSIBLE TO MOBILITY-RESTRICTED STUDENTS

U of G has just announced the welcome news of provincial funding for building renewal. I hope this means we will now see handicapped access to Massey Hall.

For years we have asked the administration to provide wheelchair access to Massey, which is home to the theatre studies program and includes public performance space. We have been told that usage does not warrant the expense.

All theatre students are required to take core studio courses, but those courses are not accessible to mobility-restricted students. In

effect, this means students with mobility restrictions are prohibited from taking a degree in theatre studies at this university.

It is to be hoped that the provincial funding for building renewal will rectify this disgraceful situation.

Prof. Alan Filewood  
English and Theatre Studies

At Guelph welcomes letters to the editor. They should be limited to 500 words and submitted electronically to [b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca).

letters

Guelph Chamber Choir

Guelph Chamber Choir

GERALD HEUFELD conductor

and

DaCapo Chamber Choir

LEONARD ENNS conductor



MARCH 1, 2008 8 PM  
St. George's Anglican Church, Guelph

Two of southern Ontario's finest choirs join forces to present old and new versions of some of the best music for choirs

TICKETS:

\$20 adult • \$10 student • \$5 [lets-go.org](http://www.lets-go.org)

Order by phone 519-763-3000 or toll-free 1-877-520-2408 or on-line at [www.riverrun.ca](http://www.riverrun.ca)

Lawren Harris,  
Morning Light,  
Lake Superior, 1927  
(oil on canvas,  
detail)

## Family Day!

A full day of free family-friendly activities

Monday, February 18 | 9 AM to 5 PM

- 10-11:30 AM Snow Sculpture Super Stars
- 11 AM-12 PM Painting the Group of Seven
- 1-2:30 PM Act Out! Performance Art
- 3-4 PM COPY CATS Printmaking
- 4-5 PM A Grand Tour of Guelph's Public Art Gallery
- ALL DAY Dress the Bear!

For more information, contact Aidan Ware, Public Programming Assistant, at 519.837.0010.

MSAC

Macdonald Stewart Art Centre  
358 Gordon Street (across from the Second Cup)  
TEL 519.837.0010 [www.msac.ca](http://www.msac.ca)

MSAC is supported by the Canada Council for the Arts, the Ontario Arts Council, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and Canadian Heritage.



# 900 to Graduate at Convocation

Continued from page 1

lege of Management and Economics (CME) at the morning ceremony Feb. 21. He has held various ministerial positions, including industry, trade and commerce; energy, mines and resources; and state for science and technology. He was also parliamentary secretary to the president of the Treasury Board. An Officer of the Order of Canada, Gillespie is a longtime governor of the Scottish Studies Foundation and has been a strong supporter of U of G's Scottish studies program.

At a second ceremony for CME in the afternoon, Sleeman will receive an honorary doctorate of laws and deliver the convocation address. Credited for reviving one of Guelph's original businesses, he has been recognized nationally for his outstanding business acumen and practices. He is the recipient of numerous business awards and has twice been named one of the "Top 100 Entrepreneurs." Also known for his dedication and service to the community, Sleeman received the Mayor's Award for his commitment to Guelph.

Conolly, a former drama professor, associate vice-president (academic) and acting vice-president (academic) at U of G, will receive an honorary doctorate of letters and address graduands at the 7 p.m. ceremony for the College of Arts. He was instrumental in creating the University's collection of theatre archives, which are named after him and have become a major resource for Guelph faculty and students, Canadian researchers and scholars from across the globe. He is currently an English professor at Trent University and interim principal at

Peter Gzowski College.

Convocation concludes Feb. 22 with an afternoon ceremony for students graduating from the Ontario Agricultural College, the Faculty of Environmental Sciences and the Ontario Veterinary College. Babiuk will speak and receive an honorary doctor of science degree.

Known for playing a major role in the development of science policy in Canada, he holds the Canada Research Chair in Vaccinology and Biotechnology at the University of Saskatchewan. He and his colleagues were the first in the world to develop a genetically engineered vaccine for respiratory disease in cattle. Babiuk holds 25 patents and has received numerous prestigious awards for excellence in research and for the effective commercialization of biological research.

Also at this ceremony, University professor emeritus status will be bestowed on Wilkie and Martin.



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Feb. 15 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to [r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Jan. 30 photo was a shot of the Reynolds Building taken from the science complex: Fran Kitchen, Bill Clair, Danny Martin, Kerry Ann Heffernen, Anu Saxena, Alison Sinclair, Dan Thomas and Ray Hutchison.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

## In Praise of Concrete

Guelph voices laud campus buildings in new book about concrete architecture in Ontario

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**F**OR A PRETEEN Wilfred Ferwerda and the other kids growing up on campus in the late 1960s, U of G's building boom meant only one thing. All those earth mounds made for great dirt-bike riding, he laughs. But today's 48-year-old draws a straight line between his childhood as the son of a former University

herdsman and a chapter he co-wrote for a new book about concrete architecture.

Ferwerda, an engineer and project manager with Physical Resources, and Ian Panabaker, heritage and urban design planner for the City of Guelph, contributed a chapter about U of G for *Concrete Toronto: A Guidebook to Concrete Architecture From the Fifties to the*

*Seventies*. Published this past fall by Coach House Books and ERA Architects, the book focuses mostly on concrete icons that are part of Toronto's urban landscape, including buildings at the University of Toronto and York University. But separate chapters look at Guelph as well as Trent and McMaster universities. (In another personal connection, Panabaker is the son of former McMaster University chancellor John Panabaker.)

In their essay, Ferwerda and Panabaker discuss U of G's campus master plan and five major concrete buildings — the MacKinnon and MacNaughton buildings, the University Centre, the McLaughlin Library and South Residences — that went up between 1967 and 1974.

That construction boom marked U of G's maturation into a modern-day university campus, says Ferwerda. Beyond the campus borders, "it brought full-fledged late-modern architecture to Guelph."

Panabaker agrees: "Except for some very fine residential projects, there is little of architectural value in the city from that period. On campus, the modern was carefully and consciously stitched into the historical, and it's the quality of the master plan that sets the University apart from a lot of the more controversial projects in the book."

Acknowledging the knocks against concrete architecture generally — hulking, cold, dank, a "concrete jungle" — both Ferwerda and Panabaker laud the choice of material by the planners and architects.

"I think the beauty of concrete is that it allows architects and designers to express some neat ideas with a

material that's fluid but then turns rock-solid," says Ferwerda. "The period was marked by explorations of an abstract language that tried to express the nature of the material."

Look at the *béton brut* texture of a wall in the University Centre courtyard, and you can see how the builders used boards for the framing, he says. "Materiality is brought right to the touch — it's not just abstract. That's an essential modern idea."

Adds Panabaker: "It's showing the hand of the fabricator. You can read how they were built."

Glancing upward in the courtyard, he points out how reinforced concrete enables the "gymnastics" of the atrium staircase. "It's jumping across three storeys. There's this incredible social gesture that is also substantial and self-assured."

Panabaker belongs to DoCoMoMo, an international movement to document and conserve modern architecture.

In their essay, he and Ferwerda write: "The late 1960s portion of the University of Guelph represents a compelling international effort at creating a modern campus plan that highlights the sophistication and maturation of the new concrete architecture. The campus created in the late 1960s and early 1970s represents a refined Brutalism — a conscious effort toward both urbanism and monumentality."

"On the campus scale, these buildings are successfully people-centred, creating identifiable pedestrian-oriented public space. With various levels of success, the emphasis on creating an identifiable urban realm continues into the public routes in the buildings themselves."



**HUMBER**  
School of Applied Technology



In just two semesters at Humber, you could upgrade your degree with a postgraduate certificate in

**Wireless Telecommunications,  
Supply Chain Management  
or Project Management.**

## Make technology work for you.

Apply now and be well on your way to a successful career in technology.

[humber.ca/makeitwork](http://humber.ca/makeitwork)



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

White Kenmore refrigerator, 18 cubic feet, top-mount freezer, new condition; white Kenmore dishwasher, 519-843-6298 after 5 p.m.

Solid pine student desk, 24 by 27 inches; computer table, 40 by 41 inches, will deliver in Guelph, 519-822-3312.

2001 Oldsmobile Alero V6, four doors, certified, 519-821-1493 or whuck@hotmail.com.

Bungalow, three bedrooms plus one, close to schools, shopping and bus route, updates include new steel roof, windows, doors, high-efficiency gas furnace, visit [www.PropertyGuys.com](http://www.PropertyGuys.com), ID#116218, or send e-mail to [debbiely@uoguelph.ca](mailto:debbiely@uoguelph.ca).

English texts for distance education course at Athabasca University (ENGL 211 "Prose Forms"), complete Kaplan MCAT texts and materials, 519-823-1559 or [vivianni@uoguelph.ca](mailto:vivianni@uoguelph.ca).

## FOR RENT

Cottage in Southampton for summer season, sleeps four, gas fireplace, private treed lot, close to lake, walk to harbour, river, downtown and golf courses, Melody, Ext. 34337, 519-836-8264 or [m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca).

Three-bedroom renovated century farmhouse in Belwood, 25 minutes from campus, family room, 1½ baths, available now, \$1,200 a month plus utilities, references required, 519-843-3720 after 6 p.m.

## WANTED

Professor seeks players and singers for informal acoustic jams, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~jerrard/music](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~jerrard/music).

Female to share home in south end with young professional woman with physical disability, private bedroom, bath and office, shared kitchen and living space, use of backyard, free parking, rent negotiable in exchange for some assistance with activities of daily living, references required, [burton8471@rogers.com](mailto:burton8471@rogers.com).

U of G's Driving Research Lab is looking for licensed drivers aged 65 and older to take part in a study involving a driving simulator, flexible scheduling, transportation and payment provided, Ryan, 519-822-4947.

Subjects needed for study on overweight children, ages six to 14, examining the benefits of exercise, Kevin, 647-290-3689 or [kryan@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kryan@uoguelph.ca), or Karen, 519-546-9340 or [hodgsonk@uoguelph.ca](mailto:hodgsonk@uoguelph.ca).

Responsible working mother with toddler seeks home to rent near downtown Guelph, non-smoker, no pets, property management experience, references available, will also

**To Truly Know and Understand Animals**  
Get to know things from the animal's perspective.

**Claudia Hehr,**  
Animal Communications  
Specialist, Author,  
Speaker, Coach.  
Private consultations, tele-classes,  
seminars, group discounts.  
[www.claudiahehr.com](http://www.claudiahehr.com)  
Tel.: 705-434-4679

consider shared living situation, 519-767-5758 or send e-mail to [rebekahjamieson@hotmail.com](mailto:rebekahjamieson@hotmail.com).

Men's over-35 soccer club seeks keeper for May to October weekend games in Guelph and Kitchener-Waterloo, Norm, 519-826-3116 or [nragetie@rogers.com](mailto:nragetie@rogers.com).

Babysitter for children, needed as soon as possible, Laura, [ladams@lsd.uoguelph.ca](mailto:ladams@lsd.uoguelph.ca).

Female staff member with pet looking for one-bedroom apartment or mature roommate to share accommodations for April 1, preferably within walking distance of campus, parking required, Ext. 53689.

## AVAILABLE

Experienced handywoman to maintain and repair your home or will provide hands-on training to enable you to do it yourself, Myra, 519-835-6048 or [inhomedetails@gmail.com](mailto:inhomedetails@gmail.com).

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 821-7800  
Fax (519) 821-7810

## February is Heart Month.

For information, visit  
[www.heartandstroke.com](http://www.heartandstroke.com).



**Campus Hardware Limited**  
1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag

## D & D GRANITEWORX INC.

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
[graniteworx@bellnet.ca](http://graniteworx@bellnet.ca)



Michael H.C. McMurray  
Partner



210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: [michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com](mailto:michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com)

- RRSP and Investment Accounts and Deposits
- RRSP Loans at Prime +0
- Michael can answer your questions and help you explore your options
- Call today for a free consultation

## YOUR PREFERRED

### Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM

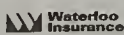
Call today for a no-obligation quote

Toll Free  
1-800-482-0822

Local  
519-836-5700

Or visit our website at  
[www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)

Save Up To 50%  
In Insurance Product Discounts  
*plus*  
Your Group Discount!



Visit us at [www.economicalinsurance.com](http://www.economicalinsurance.com)



- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts
  - Skating
  - Swimming
  - Yoga
  - Musikgarten
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers

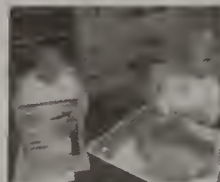
(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
DOWNTOWN GUELPH

151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

519 836-3810

[www.guelphmontessori.com](http://www.guelphmontessori.com)



"Within the Child Lies  
the Fate of the Future"  
Dr. Maria Montessori



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

The Theatre in the Trees dinner-theatre production of *The Love List* by Norm Foster continues weekends until April 26. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

Ann Estill leads a workshop on "Tips and Tools for Beginning Storytellers" March 1 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Cost is \$35. Deadline for registration and payment is Feb. 15.

## ART CENTRE

A reception for the exhibition "Spectacle and Artifice," which features photos by seven Canadian artists and runs until March 30, is Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. At 8 p.m., clarinetist Lori Freedman performs with youth musicians from U of G's Contemporary Music Ensemble, the Guelph Youth Jazz Ensemble and local high schools. Admission is free.

On Family Day Feb. 18, the art centre is hosting a daylong program of events for children and their parents. For more information, visit [www.msac.uoguelph.ca/events.htm](http://www.msac.uoguelph.ca/events.htm).

The art centre's brown bag lunch series continues Feb. 26 at noon with MSAC director and curator Judith Nasby discussing "Silver Jewelry and Embroidery by the Naxi, Bai and Miao People of China, and Tibetan Buddhist Jewelry and Clothing."

## CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues Feb. 14 with Shawn Mativetsky and Pamela Attariwala performing on tabla and violin and Feb. 28 with "Russian Contrasts," featuring Rachel Mercer on cello and Marianna Humetska on piano. Concerts start at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

## FILM

Docurama, a film series sponsored by the U of G Library and the Central Student Association, presents *In the Shadow of the Moon* Feb. 13 at 7 p.m. at War Memorial Hall. Admission is \$4 general, free for students. The series continues Feb. 27 with *My Country, My Country* and March 5 with *The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo*. These free screenings begin at 7 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

## LECTURES

OAC's public lecture series presents this year's turfgrass superintendent-in-residence, Gordon McKie, Feb. 13. Head greenkeeper at St. Andrews Old Course in St. Andrews, Scotland, he will discuss "Traditional Links Maintenance." On Feb. 27, Prof. Amar Mohanty, Premier's Research Chair in Biomaterials and Transportation, will describe "The New Agriculture: The Journey for a Sustainable Bioeconomy." The lectures begin at 5:30 p.m. in OVC 1714.

The French studies program in the School of Languages and Literatures hosts a lecture by Quebec writer Nicole Brossard, two-time winner of the Governor General's Award for Poetry, Feb. 26 at 10 a.m. in MacKinnon 223. Her topic is "Volume du soi et de la voix au milieu des questions."

The School of Fine Art and Music hosts the second annual Shenkman Lecture in Contemporary Art March 4 at 5 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. This year's speaker is philosopher and art critic Arthur Danto, who is best known for his work in philosophical esthetics and the philosophy of history.

## NOTICES

Counselling Services and the C.J. Munford Centre are sponsoring a celebration of Black History Month Feb. 27 from 5 to 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 117. Special guest is Guelph MA graduate Marva Wisdom, a 2002 winner of the YMCA/YWCA Women of Distinction Award for voluntary community and humanitarian services. Everyone is welcome.

OVC and the Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation are calling for applications for the Arthur Rouse Memorial Senior Fellowship in Veterinary and Comparative Cancer Studies. This endowed fellowship provides \$60,000 a year in salary support for up to three years to a highly qualified individual interested in pursuing aspects of veterinary and comparative cancer at the post-doctoral level. Applications are due March 28. For more information, visit [www.ovc.uoguelph.ca](http://www.ovc.uoguelph.ca).

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering a practical skills-oriented session on how to curb worry and decrease the

stress and anxiety it generates. "STOP Worrying!" runs Feb. 27 from 7 to 9 p.m. in UC 335. For more information, pick up a pamphlet at the Info Desk on UC Level 1, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

U of G's Relay for Life, a 12-hour non-competitive overnight event to raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society, is looking for teams to participate in the March 29 event at Alumni Stadium. Teams must have 10 members, with each required to raise at least \$100 in pledges. Last year's U of G participants raised a record \$83,570. For more details, send e-mail to [relay@uoguelph.ca](mailto:relay@uoguelph.ca) or visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~relay](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~relay).

Organizers of the 2008 College Royal cat show are calling for entries. The competition features 12 categories, including Best in Show and Best Owner/Cat Look-alike. Cat owners are also invited to enter the College Royal cat photo contest. Entry deadline is March 1. For more information, send e-mail to [catshow2008@hotmail.com](mailto:catshow2008@hotmail.com).

A Valentine's Day Masquerade Ball in support of Save the Children Canada will be held Feb. 15 at 8 p.m. in the University Club on UC Level 5. The evening will include a dance, contests, a silent auction and raffles. Tickets are \$15 and available at 519-822-9210 or [children@uoguelph.ca](mailto:children@uoguelph.ca).

## READINGS

The TransCanada Institute at 9 University Ave. E. is hosting a reading by Canadian novelist Warren Cariou Feb. 13 at 4:30 p.m. Cariou, who teaches aboriginal literature at the University of Manitoba, will read from his upcoming novel, *Exhaust*.

The School of English and Theatre Studies presents writer-in-residence Catherine Bush reading from and discussing her internationally acclaimed fiction Feb. 26 at 1 p.m. in lower Massey Hall.

## SEMINARS

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology presents John Brummell of the Hospital for Sick Children discussing "Mechanisms Used by *Salmonella* to Direct Their Intracellular Fate" Feb. 13 at 2 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

"ABC Transporter-Dependent Biosynthesis of a Heteropolymer O-

Polysaccharide in *Klebsiella pneumoniae*" is the focus of Laura Sande in the microbiology graduate student seminar Feb. 15 at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

The Rural History Roundtable continues Feb. 15 with Joy Parr, Canada Research Chair in Technology, Culture and Risk at the University of Western Ontario, discussing "Unsettled: Woods, Meadows and Memory of North Atlantic Alliances at Gagetown" at 2:30 p.m. in the OAC Boardroom.

Next up in the pathobiology seminar series is Byram Bridle of the Centre for Gene Therapeutics at McMaster University exploring "Brain Cancer Immunotherapy: Modulating Adenovirus-Induced Anti-Tumour Immunity With Vesicular Stomatitis Virus" Feb. 15 at 11 a.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

"C4 Photosynthesis: A Tale of a Single Cell" is the topic of Simon Chung of the University of Waterloo in the seminar series hosted by the plant biology group in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology Feb. 25 at 3:30 p.m. in science complex 2315.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Full details and a registration link for Teaching Support Services programs can be found on the ISS website at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

During Reading Week Feb. 19 to 22, instructors running online Blackboard courses can book individual consultation time with TSS support staff to work on course development, deal with maintenance issues or discuss future enhancements to their courses. To book an appointment, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

On Feb. 22, the biweekly discussion group "Teaching on the Edge" meets from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. to share teaching strategies, resources and new approaches to teaching.

## THESIS DEFENCE

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Danielle Abernethy, Molecular and Cellular Biology, is Feb. 14 at 1:30 p.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "The Role of DLX5 and DLX6 in Chondrogenesis in ATDC5 Cells." The adviser is Prof. Andrew Bendall.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Dublin Street United Church is hosting a three-part lecture series. It kicks off Feb. 20 with philosopher and U of G University professor emeritus John McMurtry discussing "Globalization and the Meaning of Life" and continues Feb. 26 with London city councillor and United Church minister Susan Eagle examining "Employment and Poverty Issues at the Local Level." The series wraps up March 5 with Lee Clau of the Six Nations and other First Nations members offering "Insights on Colonialism and Reclaiming Community." The free talks run from 7:30 to 9 p.m.

The 33rd annual Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph Bowl for Kids Sake campaign runs March 29 to April 1 at Woodlawn Bowl. The organization is looking for teams of four to six bowlers to collect donations to support its mentoring programs. For more information, contact Jessica Bowes at 519-824-5154 or [jessica@bbbsg.ca](mailto:jessica@bbbsg.ca).

Two daylong public workshops on the ecological restoration of decommissioned landfill sites run March 7 and 8 at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. The March 7 event focuses on the Guelph Pollination Initiative and runs from 9 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. The March 8 event is a Canadian Pollinator Protection Initiative meeting and runs from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Registration for both events starts at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$5 per day. Register at [pollinateguelph@gmail.com](mailto:pollinateguelph@gmail.com) or at the door.

The Waterloo Wellington Wildflower Society meets Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Seniors Centre. U of G Arboretum horticulturist Sean Fox will discuss rare trees and shrubs of Ontario and the Elm Recovery Project.

The Wellington branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets Feb. 26 at 7:30 p.m. at 122 Harris St. Kathleen Wall, assistant curator of the Guelph Civic Museum, will discuss "To Research or Not to Research at Guelph Museums."

The seventh annual Mid-Winter Ceili, featuring the Celtic band Hawp and Tir Na Nog Dance Academy, is Feb. 23 at 8 p.m. at the Red Chevron Club, 34 Elizabeth St. For advance tickets or information, call 519-589-4732 or send e-mail to [info@tirnanogacademy.com](mailto:info@tirnanogacademy.com).

• Renovating

• Allergies

**Fresh Start**

• Moving

• New Baby

**CARPET & FURNITURE CLEANING**  
Nobody Cleans Better Than Steamatic

**STEAMATIC**  
total cleaning & restoration  
Trusted Since 1968

**AIR DUCT CLEANING**  
Breathe cleaner air  
Call Us 519-836-7340



Valerie Poulton





## May I Have This Dance?

Nathalie Lemieux, a staff member in the Department of Pathobiology, coaxes her macaw, Lacey, to show off the dancing moves that have made the bird a TV ad star. See story on page 10. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## International Bar-Coding Project Gets \$5M Boost

*First reference library of DNA bar codes will tell which species is which*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**A** REVOLUTIONARY "library of life" that will allow the rapid identification of any animal, plant, fungus or protist is one step closer to reality.

The Ontario government announced Feb. 14 that it is investing \$5 million in the International Barcode of Life (iBOL) project, which will be headquartered at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO) at U of G.

iBOL will involve more than 100 researchers from 25 countries once fully activated. This consortium will create the world's first reference library of DNA bar codes for use in species identification around the globe. It will also develop new informatics tools and technologies.

"By supporting world-class research, we are attracting the best and brightest research talent to our province and ensuring that cutting-edge discoveries are made right here in Ontario," said John Wilkinson, minister of research and innovation, during an event at the BIO. "This world-renowned research project is enhancing Ontario's global reputa-

tion as a beacon for research and innovation, while at the same time helping to lay a foundation for future jobs and economic prosperity."

iBOL will be headed by BIO director Prof. Paul Hebert, Integrative Biology, who was the first scientist to propose that a short DNA sequence from a standard gene region shared by all multicellular life could be used to identify species. He called the system DNA bar-coding, analogous to how retail products are tagged in supermarkets to allow their quick identification.

"This groundbreaking alliance will have a profound impact in Canada and around the globe, literally changing how humanity identifies life," says president Alastair Summerlee. "Ontario and the University of Guelph are leading the world in research in this area, and this investment will help expand this cutting-edge work across countries and continents."

DNA bar-coding technology reduces species identification time to hours and, eventually, to minutes. The short bar-code sequence is used to assign any specimen to a known

species or to a new one by matching it against a reference library of sequences. Analysis extends to all life stages and to fragments of organisms.

"Climate change, globalization of trade and calls for biodiversity conservation make rapid species identification a worldwide need," says Hebert. "DNA bar-coding is already an effective tool, but by engaging hundreds of researchers across the globe, we will gather the vital species information needed to guide national mandates for conservation and surveillance."

DNA bar-coding has already led to the discovery of overlooked species of birds, bats, butterflies, fishes and marine algae. But iBOL will drive the DNA bar-code library from its current 35,000 species to 500,000 species in its first five years.

Hebert estimates that iBOL will gather bar-code records for all 10 million species of multicellular life on the planet within 20 years. Only 1.6 million of these species have been formally identified during the past 250 years.

*Continued on page 10*

## Province Invests \$9.5 Million in OVC Centre

*Funds to expand learning opportunities for students*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**T**HE ONTARIO GOVERNMENT is investing \$9.5 million in a unique educational centre in primary health care at the Ontario Veterinary College. The new facility is part of the overall redevelopment of OVC and the Veterinary Teaching Hospital.

"The new primary health-care centre is an example of the leadership by the provincial government in investing in the future of our universities and colleges," says president Alastair Summerlee. "It will provide an opportunity for private/public partnership in creating better campus facilities for our students."

The primary health-care centre will provide educational experiences in all aspects of primary health care, from surgical and technical skills to business and communication skills to preventive medicine, nutrition, and animal welfare and behaviour. Students will learn to educate owners about the health of their animals and to enhance the bond people feel for their animal companions.

Recent studies have shown that animal owners have rising expectations for the health of their animals and are looking to veterinarians to provide that care. Last year alone, people spent \$8 billion on pets in Canada, with \$1.6 billion of that going towards veterinary care.

A unique aspect of the centre is that student veterinarians will be integrally involved in its management and operation. They will provide treatment and care under the supervision of a core staff of veterinarians, technicians and receptionists who

will serve as mentors, trainers and evaluators.

"The centre will give our student veterinarians unprecedented and invaluable learning and training opportunities and bring vital infrastructure improvements to the entire OVC campus," says OVC dean Elizabeth Stone.

Currently, OVC's Teaching Hospital operates primarily by referral, and doctors see mostly specialty cases. Students see the most sophisticated diagnostic and treatment procedures, but they have limited opportunities to participate in routine health care.

At the new centre, students will be able to log upwards of 300 clinical hours during the four years of their DVM program and be involved with many more routine patient visits than in the current curriculum.

In addition, students will be trained on new and emerging technology and procedures, allowing them to add value to their future employers and veterinary practices, says Stone.

"This will enhance OVC's already strong reputation for excellence and improve both the competence and confidence of our graduates. We hope to shape the future of veterinary education in primary health care."

The primary health-care program will be embedded into OVC's core curriculum. No other North American veterinary college has an equivalent program, she says, so this initiative is an opportunity for OVC and the University to be at the forefront of learning and research in veterinary medical education.

## 84th College Royal Ready to Roll

**M**ORE THAN 30,000 people will visit U of G March 15 and 16 for College Royal Weekend, the largest university open house event in North America. This year's theme is "Discover the Royal Difference."

College Royal offers a wide range of free events, including dog and cat shows, square-dancing and flower-arranging competitions, a tractor rodeo, a livestock show, a logging competition, a spelling bee and live

animal surgery at the Ontario Veterinary Hospital.

Activities designed especially for children include a chemistry magic show, food science milkshakes, pop-bottle rockets, boat races and Old MacDonald's New Farm.

In addition, a lecture series runs throughout the weekend, featuring talks on a variety of topics being studied at U of G.

For a complete listing of events, visit [www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca](http://www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca).



## The Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare

is pleased to invite you to attend the  
**F.W. Presant Memorial Lecture**

**Dr. Joy Mench**

**"Laying Hen Welfare:  
Scientific, Consumer  
and Industry Perspectives"**

**Tuesday, March 11, at 7 p.m.  
Lifetime Learning Centre, Room 1714  
Ontario Veterinary College**



**Michael H.C. McMurray**  
Partner



210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com

- RRSP and Investment Accounts and Deposits
- RRSP Loans at Prime +0
- Michael can answer your questions and help you explore your options
- Call today for a free consultation



(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
**DOWNTOWN GUELPH**  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

**519 836-3810**

**www.guelphmontessori.com**

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts
  - Skating
  - Swimming
  - Yoga
  - Musikgarten
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers



*"Within the Child Lies  
the Fate of the Future"*  
Dr. Maria Montessori

# GRANITEWORX

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

**ROB DURIGON**

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 /fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
graniteworx@bellnet.ca

## U of G to Mark Accessibility Awareness Day March 4

*Wheelchair challenge, resource fair, concert and awards to highlight accessibility issues*

**S**ANDY NAIMAN, a successful journalist living with bipolar disorder, will be the keynote speaker on Accessibility Awareness Day March 4 at U of G. The day is aimed at drawing attention to the issue of access on campus for people with disabilities.

"Accessibility is an ongoing issue, and we are always taking steps forward towards improvement by identifying and responding to barriers, but we haven't achieved universal accessibility yet," says Denise De La Frasier, chair of Accessibility Awareness Day and an assistant adviser in the Centre for Students With Disabilities. "It's important to educate the public about the variety of disabilities, both visible and invisible, and that we have to accommodate them all."

The day kicks off at 10 a.m. with a

resource fair in the University Centre courtyard featuring information booths by campus and community organizations that provide services to assist with accessibility issues.

A wheelchair challenge will also be set up to promote the upcoming Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion, a national campaign to raise money and awareness for people with spinal cord injuries. Participants will be invited to make a donation for a chance to manoeuvre a wheelchair through a timed obstacle course. The winner of the competition will receive a gift card to the University Bookstore.

"People are often surprised to find out how hard it is to actually get around in a wheelchair while also trying to complete the course quickly and safely," says De La Frasier.

Folk-rock singer and songwriter Mark Wilson, who uses a wheelchair and is a strong advocate of accessibility issues, will perform in the UC courtyard from 11 a.m. to noon.

The day wraps up with Naiman's lecture at 7 p.m. in UC 442. She will discuss "The Power of Language and Mental Health."

The evening event will also mark the presentation of the Tara Lynn Giuliani Award and the Gonder Family Scholarship.

Ashley Tindall is this year's recipient of the Tara Lynn Giuliani Award, which recognizes a student who is visually impaired and has achieved academic success while balancing volunteer work. David Donelan will receive the Gonder Family Scholarship, which is awarded annually to a student with a diagnosed learning disability.

## Diverse New Graduate Programs Approved

**A**T ITS FEB. 12 MEETING, Senate approved a record number of new graduate programs, including master's programs in public health, art and visual culture, and Latin America and Caribbean studies; master's and doctoral programs in integrative biology and molecular and cellular biology; master's and graduate diploma programs in hospitality and tourism; and a graduate diploma in applied statistics. A doctoral program in political science also got Senate's nod.

In other business, a membership slate for the Review Committee for the Provost and Vice-President (Academic) was approved. Chaired by president Alastair Summerlee, the committee consists of College of Social and Applied Human Sciences dean Alun Joseph; Prof. Neil MacLusky, Biomedical Sciences; Prof. Steve Lynch, Hospitality and Tourism Management; Prof. Catharine

Wilson, History; undergraduate student Dave Heppenstall; graduate student Icy D'Silva; Peter Landoni of Registrarial Services; and one member of Board of Governors to be determined.

Prof. Donna Penney, U of G's academic colleague to the Council of Ontario Universities, updated senators on the council's recent advocacy activities as well as new initiatives to facilitate and co-ordinate the transfer of post-secondary students from sector to sector, including increased mobility between Canadian and international institutions.

The February meeting also marked the introduction of i-clicker technology at Senate on a trial basis as an alternative to the traditional show of hands. The hand-held i-clickers allow users to vote by entering their responses anonymously for each motion, with the results of the vote displayed immediately on a screen.

## Altercation in Residence Results in Charges, Eviction

*CSA pledges support in helping University maintain safe environment*

**A**U OF G STUDENT has been charged following an altercation in residence Feb. 14 that resulted in the stabbing of another student. The incident occurred around 10:30 p.m. and was investigated by both Campus Community Police and City of Guelph Police.

The student charged in connection with the stabbing has been evicted from residence by U of G and faces disciplinary action under the Student Code of Conduct.

The injured student was taken to hospital with non-life-threatening injuries and was released in time to spend Reading Week at home with family. He returned to campus Feb. 25.

"This is the first time such an incident has occurred in our student housing, and we are taking it very seriously," says Brenda Whiteside, associate vice-president (student affairs). "We have clear rules in residences: no weapons allowed and zero tolerance for weapons and

violence."

The safety and security of student residences has long been a source of pride at U of G, she adds.

"I want to assure the campus community that we are taking appropriate actions and will remain constantly vigilant to ensure our students remain safe."

The Central Student Association has also publicly pledged its support in helping the University maintain a safe and healthy educational environment.

at GUELPH

**Editor** Barbara Chance  
b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Design** Peter Enneson

**Production** Linda Graham  
l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Advertising** Scott Anderson  
theadersonsdifference@rogers.com

**Director** Chuck Cunningham  
c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca

At Guelph is published every two weeks  
by Communications and Public Affairs,  
Level 4, University Centre, University of  
Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.

Inquiries: 519-824-4120

Editorial: Ext. 56580

Distribution: Ext. 56581

Advertising: Ext. 56580

www.uoguelph.ca/adguide

Classifieds: Ext. 56581

Fax: 519-824-7962

Website: www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph

Articles may be reprinted  
with credit to At Guelph.

**Subscriptions**

\$25 (includes GST);  
\$30 outside Canada  
ISSN 0836-4478



#### CUPE NEGOTIATIONS TO CONTINUE WITH MEDIATOR

The University and CUPE 1334 have failed to reach an agreement in their negotiations on a new collective agreement, and as a result, employees represented by the union could be in a legal strike position as of March 8. Both parties have, however, agreed to continue negotiations with the help of a mediator March 7. Watch for updates on the negotiations on the University's home page.

#### BUS PASSES NOW AVAILABLE FROM PARKING SERVICES

The discounted Guelph Transit monthly bus passes available to all U of G employees can now be purchased from Parking Services. The passes, which offer a 15-per-cent discount and officially go into effect March 3, can be purchased through payroll deduction, debit, cash, MasterCard, Visa or cheque. They are non-refundable and cannot be pre-rated. The discounted passes are part of a year-long e-pass pilot project between the City of Guelph and two of its largest employers, U of G and The Co-operators.

#### RELAY FOR LIFE SEEKS TEAMS TO PARTICIPATE, VOLUNTEERS

U of G's Relay for Life, a 12-hour non-competitive overnight event that runs March 29 at Alumni Stadium in support of the Canadian Cancer Society, is looking for teams to participate and volunteers to help out. Teams must have 10 members, with each required to raise at least \$100 in pledges. Proceeds go to fund cancer research, support programs and advocacy. For more information, send e-mail to [relay@uoguelph.ca](mailto:relay@uoguelph.ca) or visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~relay](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~relay).

#### CAMPUS DAYS GEAR UP

Up to 3,000 prospective undergraduate students and their parents are expected to visit U of G during Campus Days March 13 and 14. Hundreds of U of G faculty, staff and student volunteers will be on hand to talk about all facets of university life, ranging from academic programs to campus services and organizations. During the two days, parking lots P14 and P15 will be reserved for Campus Days visitors. Members of the campus community are encouraged to park in P13, P18 and P19. For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/admissions/campusdays](http://www.uoguelph.ca/admissions/campusdays).

#### SKIP A MEAL FOR CHARITY

The University community is encouraged to donate meal points or cash to Meal Exchange's "Skip a Meal" program until March 7. Donations go towards supporting 19 local organizations in Guelph, including men and women's shelters and food banks. Volunteers will be accepting donations this week at Creelman Dining Hall, Prairie Cafeteria and the Centre Six Food Court from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 5 to 7 p.m. Meal Exchange is a national student-run organization that aims to engage students from 45 Canadian campuses in solving the problem of hunger.

## Psychology Prof Honoured

U of G scholar named Canadian Institute for Advanced Research Fellow

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**P**ROF. Leanne Son Hing, Psychology, has been named a Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) Successful Societies program.

CIFAR funds leading scholars so they can pursue fundamental questions about society, technology and the nature of humanity and the universe.

"As a CIFAR Fellow, Leanne is now part of a very select group of scholars who do frontier work in their field," says Michele Lamont, a Harvard University professor who is co-director of the program.

"We chose her after an extensive national search among untended researchers across a wide range of disciplines. She is very engaged and engaging and helps us connect to a wide range of literatures that move our research agenda in new and unexpected directions. We are very proud of having her on board."

Launched in 2002, the Successful Societies program brings together a diverse group of scholars to work on

research projects aimed at understanding the determinants of societal success in order to revolutionize future research and also guide public policy to create more just, efficient and effective societies.

The researchers come from universities across North America and include specialists working in cultural studies, epidemiology, developmental psychology, cultural and political sociology, philosophy, history, economics and political science.

Son Hing was asked to join the program as a Scholar in 2005 and this month was promoted to Fellow. This designation is a five-year term with an annual grant of \$40,000.

"I am very grateful for this funding because it allows me to continue to study what I am passionate about," says Son Hing.

Her research focuses on social justice issues relevant to organizational settings. Areas she has explored include how people's prejudices influence their discriminatory behaviour, how people in orga-

nizational settings come to make unethical decisions, how stereotypes about women negatively affect their work performance, and how people's concerns with justice influence their reactions to diversity initiatives.

"The program itself has been beneficial in that it has taught me to consider the big picture or macro-level processes to understand phenomena. Even though I'm interested in studying the behaviour of individuals, it's important to consider the social systems and contexts they operate in."

As a CIFAR Fellow, Son Hing will meet with the selected group members three times a year to discuss the direction of their research as well as her current findings.

Her articles have appeared in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology* and the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, and she has co-authored chapters on prejudice and justice. She has also received an Award for Excellence in Teaching from the Department of Psychology.

## Philosopher, Art Critic to Give Second Shenkman Lecture

School of Fine Art and Music hosts influential thinker on contemporary art

**A**RTHUR DANTO, a world-renowned philosopher and art critic, will deliver the School of Fine Art and Music's second annual Shenkman Lecture in Contemporary Art March 4 at 5 p.m. at War Memorial Hall.

Known for his expertise in philosophical aesthetics, Danto is highly regarded for his work on the classic question of how you decide whether or not something is a work of art.

"Arthur Danto has long been considered one of the most influential thinkers on contemporary art," says Prof. John Kissick, director of the School of Fine Art and Music. "His work mixes significant philosophical insights into the nature of art in the post-modern age with accessible journalistic art

criticism."

A longtime art critic for *The Nation*, Danto has published a number of books and journal articles on art criticism and won the National Book Critics Circle Prize in 1990 for his book *Encounters and Reflections: Art in the Historical Present*. In addition, he is a contributing editor to the *Naked Punch Review* and *Artforum*.

Danto is also the author of numerous articles and books on philosophy and is an editor of the *Journal of Philosophy*. He taught at Columbia University for more than half a century and is now Johnsenian Professor Emeritus Philosophy.

His extensive knowledge in both art and philosophy has garnered him many fellowships and grants, including two Guggenheims, a Fulbright

and an American Council of Learned Societies Fellowship. He has served as vice-president and president of the American Philosophical Association and president of the American Society for Aesthetics.

Kissick says the lecture series gives the University community a unique opportunity to interact with some of the leading international figures in contemporary art.

"The lectures also spotlight the University's superb graduate program in the visual arts, which is known as one of the country's best."

The Shenkman Lecture series was established last year through an endowment provided by Dasha Shenkman, a Canadian art collector who now lives in the United Kingdom.

## Hotelier Is Executive-in-Residence

**T**HIS SEMESTER'S executive-in-residence in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) is Canadian hotelier and U of G graduate Martin Stitt, who has more than 20 years of industry experience. He will be teaching classes and meeting with graduate and undergraduate students March 4 and 5.

"We believe Martin is the ideal role model for our current HTM students," says Adam Fikus, a lecturer who organized Stitt's visit. "His career progression demonstrates that ambition, coupled with dedication

and hard work, makes it possible for young aspiring hoteliers to become successful. Martin is a leader in the industry, and we believe that having him on campus will provide students with insights into the hotel industry and practical applications in the classroom."

Stitt, who earned a B.Comm. from U of G in 1987 and is now enrolled in the University's distance MBA program, began his career as a front-desk agent at the Delta Chelsea, Canada's largest hotel. Three years later, he became a key executive on the opening team of

Stage West All Suite Hotel and Theatre Restaurant. As controller and then executive assistant manager, he helped establish the facility as a market leader.

Over the past decade, Stitt has served as general manager at Langdon Hall Country House Hotel and Spa in Cambridge and at Delta Hotels in Ottawa, St. John's and Vancouver. He is currently general manager of the Delta Meadowvale Resort and Conference Centre, and sits on the boards of the Greater Toronto Hotel Association and Tourism Mississauga.

## people

#### HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS HONOUR CHANCELLOR

U of G chancellor Pamela Wallin received a National Leadership Award from Our Lady of Lourdes High School Feb. 20. During a ceremony that also celebrated Flag Day, Wallin spoke about the importance of student leadership and the national flag.

#### SUMMERLEE NAMED TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT VINELAND

President Alastair Summerlee has been appointed to the board of directors of the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre. He is one of four new members who will assist with the revitalization of Vineland.

#### FIGURE SKATING GRYPHONS CAPTURE SILVER MEDAL AT OUA CHAMPIONSHIPS

U of G's figure skating team earned one of its highest-ever finishes with a silver medal at the 2008 OUA championships held Feb. 20 and 21 on campus. Leading the Gryphon team was Sarina Tsai with a gold-medal performance in the open solo dance and a bronze medal in her short program. Lindsay Webb earned a gold medal with her partner, Lindsay Dow, in the intermediate similar pairs and a bronze medal in the senior silver free skate.

#### SOCIOLOGIST GIVES TALK AT UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

University professor emerita Lynn McDonald, Sociology and Anthropology, recently gave a public lecture on "Social Change to Meet Climate Change" at the University of Alberta's Centre for Constitutional Studies.

#### MA STUDENT'S BLOG WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Danielle Takacs, a master's student in the Department of Political Science, won a Best New Blog Award in the 2007 Canadian Blog Awards competition this month. Thousands of people voted for their favourite blogs in two dozen categories, and Takacs won for her five-month-old blog called "Galloping Around the Golden Horseshoe."

#### FAREWELL RECEPTION SET

A farewell reception will be held Feb. 29 for Isobel Lander of Research Services, who is retiring after more than 18 years at U of G. It runs from 3 to 5 p.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre. RSVP to Mahala Wagner at [hwagner@uoguelph.ca](mailto:hwagner@uoguelph.ca). Gift donations can be sent to Warren Beacham in Research Financial Services.

#### LEAP YEAR FUNDRAISER SUPPORTS PRINCESS MARGARET HOSPITAL

Jason Thompson of Teaching Support Services, who plans to participate in the Ride to Conquer Cancer in support of Princess Margaret Hospital in June, is hosting a fundraising leap year party Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. at the Fergus Legion. The evening will include an auction and a live band. Admission is \$10. For tickets, call Thompson at Ext. 58545.



# The Craft of Teaching

BY TERESA PITMAN

**W**HAT'S THE MOST EFFECTIVE tool in a teacher's repertoire? It's not necessarily the ability to make flashy PowerPoint presentations or tell jokes in class, says Peter Wolf, acting associate director of Teaching Support Services (TSS). It's enthusiasm.

"When professors teach about what excites them — what they're truly interested in — they communicate that enthusiasm to their students," says Wolf. "That can help bring students to the cutting edge of the topic — what we know, what we don't know, what questions we're asking."

Bringing more of that enthusiasm to the surface is a key part of his job. As acting associate director, Wolf is involved in all three aspects of teaching support. The first is design and maintenance of the physical classroom space, including things like whiteboards, overhead projectors and control panels. The second includes learning technology and courseware (such as Blackboard) designed to help students learn. The third — the unit he also manages — is instructional development, which strikes close to the heart of the student's experience in the classroom.

"The instructional development unit helps educators with approaches, practices, research and perspectives on teaching — everything related to fostering learning," says Wolf.

For example, he may help instructors with writing effective test questions, improving their speaking skills in front of a class, facilitating experiential learning opportunities or assessing the effectiveness of their approaches to teaching. He also works with departments and colleges to develop or revise curriculum.



Teaching is highly valued at the University, says Peter Wolf, and that makes his job easier.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

The enthusiasm Wolf describes as the hallmark of a good teacher is apparent when he talks about his own work and his desire to foster continual improvement and innovation.

Hanging out with so many top researchers may have influenced him as well.

"Another part of what we do is help faculty research their teaching and sometimes publish articles about teaching practices that are especially effective in their discipline. In one case, a geography professor had noted that field courses were very successful and wanted to know which elements of the field course contributed to that success. She designed an on-campus course that incorporated many aspects of the field course, then evaluated it and compared it with a true field course. Al-

though some aspects of the on-campus course weren't rated as highly, it succeeded in actively engaging students."

Teaching is highly valued at Guelph, adds Wolf, and that makes his job easier.

"The University recognizes that teaching is a craft, a skill that can be improved. Clearly the foundation is that we want top researchers and top experts teaching the next generation, and we have growing amounts of research on effective learning and teaching that we can apply so that student learning is enhanced."

He notes that Guelph's top researchers tend to take teaching seriously. "They apply the same integrity and desire for quality to their teaching as they do to their research."

Although faculty aren't required

to make use of the instructional development services offered by TSS, demand has been so high that the number of staff has doubled in recent years from two to four, says Wolf.

"We work with people at all stages of their career path, from TAs to new faculty to the more experienced faculty, as well as with whole departments, programs and colleges. We help those who are teaching or enhancing curriculum get the perspectives of students, alumni and employees, so they can understand what's needed."

Wolf came to U of G after working in the corporate world doing "train the trainer" programs.

"I wanted to feel that I was making a difference. I didn't feel that in the corporate setting, but I do here."

In fact, Guelph is known as a

leader in teaching excellence, and one of Wolf's goals is to build on that positive reputation by sharing the University's expertise with other campuses. This fall, for example, TSS will invite teams from other universities to a three-day teaching institute to learn how to foster a culture and incorporate processes that encourage continual improvement in curriculum design and teaching.

Wolf is building connections with the broader teaching community in other ways as well. Last fall, he and Prof. Julia Christensen Hughes, chair of the Department of Business, guest edited a journal called *Curriculum Development in Higher Education: Faculty-Driven Processes and Practices*.

"It's quite a coup," he says. "I'm especially proud that one-third of the articles in the book were written by U of G faculty."

Besides editing, he wrote one of the articles, describing how the instructional development unit of TSS supports curriculum assessment and development initiatives.

In addition, Wolf is on the board of the Institute for the Advancement of Teaching in Higher Education and was just elected to the board of the Society for Teaching and Learning in Higher Education. He's also part of a working group on teaching and learning for the Ontario Council of Academic Vice-Presidents.

He says the interaction with other people doing similar work helps him get new ideas and perspectives, and also gives him the opportunity to share what U of G is accomplishing.

When he's not exploring new teaching ideas, Wolf is exploring the world. He recently returned from a trip to Thailand and Cambodia and is planning a bike trip along the Danube this summer.

## '5 Days for the Homeless' Focuses on Chronic Problem

*Students' fundraising drive aims to boost awareness of the needs of homeless people*

BY REBECCA KENDALL

**W**ORKING TO FIGHT homelessness in the community should be everybody's business, says fourth-year business student Michael Holden.

Holden, who is president of the College of Management and Economics Students' Association (CMESA) and a student senator, is the project manager for U of G's first "5 Days for the Homeless," an initiative that aims to raise funds for and awareness of homelessness, which is a reality for an estimated 33,000 Canadians. About one-third of these people are youth.

From March 9 to 14, Holden, along with business students Dian Chaaban, David Fallarme and Julien Jacques, will add themselves to that figure as they collect pledges for Wyndham House, a local registered charitable organization that provides safe and stable co-operative living

residences for youth aged 16 to 21 who would otherwise be homeless.

The four students will spend the week without access to money, overnight shelter or a shower. Their only nourishment will come from those who donate meals to them. In addition, they must remain on campus the entire week, attend all their classes and maintain all their responsibilities in terms of extracurricular activities and employment.

For Holden, this means keeping up with five courses, attending a faculty appreciation night at the President's House and fulfilling his duties as president of CMESA.

"I'm a pretty busy guy, so making sure I can get everything done while I'm homeless with no resources will probably be my biggest challenge," he says, adding that the group will be sharing their experiences through a blog that links to the campaign site at [www.guelph.5days.ca](http://www.guelph.5days.ca). (Pledges to

the four students can be made on this site or in person.)

The "5 Days for the Homeless" campaign, which was first run in 2006, was created by three University of Alberta business students as a way to support the disadvantaged and help change public perceptions of business students. This is the first year other universities are taking part in the event.

"There's a stereotype that business students are focused on money and that we don't care about giving back to the community," says Holden.

"This week gives us a chance to bring attention to a chronic problem, and it solidifies our belief that there's more to business than the bottom line."

The week will end with a concert March 14 at the Bullring. Doors open at 9 p.m. For information, send e-mail to [mholden@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mholden@uoguelph.ca).

### EYE EXAMS NOW ARRANGED

- Eye Doctor Prescriptions Filled
- Two Opticians with over 57 Years Combined Experience
- Senior's Discount Available
- Family has served Guelph and Wellington County since 1940

**Scott Coburn Optical**  
"A Name You Can Trust In Eyewear"

Mon-Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Fri. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sat. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Telephone 519-821-2020**

123 WYNDHAM ST. N.

Opposite the old Post Office



Scott Coburn

### College Royal™ 2008

Open House Weekend: March 15 & 16, 2008

Saturday: 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"Discover the Royal Difference"

University of Guelph Campus

(519) 824-4120, Ext. 58366

[www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca](http://www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca)

Come celebrate with us! Animals, displays, shows. Fun for all! FREE





# Research in the Midst of Violence

Kenya's post-election conflict throws up roadblocks for livestock research by U of G graduate student

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**I**N DECEMBER, U of G graduate student Florence Mutua returned to her native Kenya to do more fieldwork in her project designed to improve livelihoods of small-scale pig farmers in the East African country. But she hadn't counted on a national election that sparked protests, including riots and deaths in the study area.

Back in Guelph this month with her co-supervisor, Prof. Cate Dewey, chair of the Department of Population Medicine, Mutua shakes her head over the conflict in Kenya and prospects for completing their study anytime soon.

Referring to the western region of the country that has seen some of the worst post-election violence, she says: "It's not very safe to conduct any kind of research there at the moment."

In largely rural western Kenya, many people live on about \$1 a day. For many, tending one, two or three pigs tethered to trees around their homes offers a way to make money for necessities: medicine, school for their children, food and seed corn.

But they face numerous challenges in raising and caring for their animals, says Mutua. Many people need help with animal husbandry. Another problem is ensuring a fair price for their animals at market, especially when many farmers lack proper measuring tools and routinely underestimate their animals' value.



Grad student Florence Mutua, left, and Prof. Cate Dewey study ways to improve the lives of pig farmers in Kenya. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

The researchers have developed a handy method based on body length and girth for farmers to estimate pig weight more accurately. For western farmers, relying on such a formula might sound crude, says Dewey, but it's a vital bit of information for many rural Kenyans.

During their visits to villages near the towns of Kakamega, Busia and Eldoret, the researchers have collected information about farmers' practices and knowledge. They've also offered training, not just in estimating pig size but also in animal feeding and husbandry practices designed to help pigs grow better and faster and to produce larger, strong litters. Repeat visits have shown that farmers are indeed changing their practices.

Mutua had planned late last year to pay followup visits to about 120 farms near Kakamega. But she reached only about 50 during her three-week stay before post-election ethnic conflict curtailed her plans.

Along with Busia near the Ugandan border, the area has seen some of the worst violence since the election. Some 30 Kenyans burned to death after a mob torched a church in Eldoret.

Depending on political circumstances, the researchers might have to rely on a smaller data set from one site or alter the study design to incorporate varied kinds of data.

"We have to return to square one in our study design," says Dewey.

They began the project in 2006, working with local veterinary officers and with the Nairobi-based International Livestock Research Institute, whose research arm is run by Prof. John McDermott, Population Medicine.

The two women had met during fieldwork for a tapeworm mapping project that Mutua had begun for

her master's degree at the University of Nairobi. Dewey had visited Africa for the first time that year on a research leave.

Starting last fall, Mutua, a licensed veterinarian, enrolled at Guelph for a year's worth of coursework. She'll return to Africa in the spring for more field studies involving this project and her pig research with her Kenyan co-supervisor.

Referring to recent violence and ongoing mediation talks involving former United Nations secretary-general Kofi Annan in Kenya, she says: "I'm always thinking about home. I think about the safety of all Kenyans, especially those in areas worst hit by the clashes."

Dewey still hopes to return to Kenya as well to conduct more farm visits, the timing of which is crucial to the project's success. "I feel very sad about what's happening," she says. "It's a huge conflict for people I've worked with."

Since her first visit to Africa, the Guelph professor has returned three times each year. Besides her research there, she has started a charitable project called Children of Bukati, which raises money to send AIDS orphans to school in Busia.

She concedes the paradox of studying pig farming in a country gripped by violence and ethnic conflict. "I'm not going to solve AIDS or bring on world peace. But I know lots about pigs. I truly believe we can help individual people. We can still have an impact on families."

## Kinross Canada-Brazil Network Launched

Collaboration will explore teaching, research links in natural resource management

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**P**ROF. RICHARD HECK, Land Resource Science (LRS), might want to brush up on his Portuguese-language skills. Under a new research and teaching partnership between U of G and several Brazilian institutions, the Guelph soil scientist and several U of G colleagues will spend a lot more time working with the South American country.

This month, U of G took part in the official opening of the Kinross Canada-Brazil Network for Advanced Education and Research in Natural Resource Management. Funded by a three-year, \$1-million donation from Toronto-based Kinross Gold Corp., the network will link the University of Guelph and institutions throughout the South American nation in student and faculty exchanges, joint courses and research projects, particularly in the life sciences and natural resource management.

Those collaborations might explore many areas, including environmental impacts of mining operations and resource rehabilitation. That's what brought the company and the University together

within the past year.

"We've got a very nice cross-section that can look at the various dimensions involved," says Heck, pointing to Guelph expertise across engineering, environmental sciences, biology, social sciences, business and other disciplines.

"We want to enable students to learn in a broader global context and allow researchers to engage more broadly, especially in environmental studies."

The program involves Heck and Guelph faculty across several colleges. Their Brazilian partners are eight universities and three federal research institutes located in all five of the country's major regions.

Among possible teaching connections, the partners are exploring video links for courses taught in Guelph and Brazil. They're also considering student exchanges and ways to help U of G undergraduates work in Brazil with Guelph faculty and graduate students.

About 20 undergrads are already scheduled to visit Brazil for two weeks this semester as part of a new U of G course on tropical soils. Those students are enrolled in various programs, including agriculture,

environmental sciences, international development, toxicology and natural resource management.

One of them is international development student Erin Kitchen.

"I'm interested in the ways rural people adapt and innovate under marginal conditions such as growing crops in poor-quality soils," she says. "It's important for us as Canadian students to realize the impacts of our behaviour and everyday decisions, even on those halfway around the world."

The Guelph researchers had proposed a similar network about five years ago. Last year, they began planning this new teaching and research group with Kinross, which operates a mine in Paracatu in central-west Brazil.

"Both Brazil and Canada are nations whose culture, economy and political development are largely influenced by their natural resources," says Kinross president and CEO Tye Burt. "It makes sense that, on issues of sustainable land and water use, Canadian and Brazilian institutions collaborate in a meaningful way."

Network partners plan to study environmental impacts of mining and rehabilitation of land and natu-

ral resources. Possible research projects for faculty and grad students include soil remediation, mine-waste treatment and use of mine waste for fertilizer. At Guelph, that research will involve various departments, including grad students who may be co-supervised by U of G faculty and Brazilian counterparts.

Two of Heck's LRS colleagues — retired professor Peter Van Straaten and Prof. Paul Voroney — have also explored partnerships with Brazil and helped start this collaborative initiative. Van Straaten studies the use of local mineral resources for farming in developing nations — colloquially called "rocks for crops" — and has organized a conference on the topic in Brazil. Voroney studies soil organic matter dynamics.

Heck uses computerized axial tomography — CAT scans — to study soil structure and its effect on physical and biological factors such as water flow, root growth and soil microbes. The Saskatchewan native worked with Brazilian researchers for two decades before coming to Guelph eight years ago. He taught soil science at the Universidade Federal Rural de Pernambuco in Recife for about six years.

"It's an exciting country," he says, pointing to Brazil's rich culture. "It's emerging as a world leader."

Under the new network, Guelph students will have a chance to study aspects of that culture. The project includes funding for an introductory Portuguese-language course to begin next fall.

OPTOMETRISTS  
**GOEMANS & ASSOCIATES**

**Dr. Donna Goemans**  
**Dr. Paul Goemans**  
**Dr. Doris Hrvatin**  
**Dr. Tiffany Tang**  
Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED**

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,

Loser Surgery Consultation  
570 Kortright Rd. W. Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**

Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible





Prof. David MacDonald, Political Science, studies how groups have appropriated the Holocaust to gain sympathy for their cause. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Ideals and Identity

Prof aims to help groups move beyond their differences to find peace

BY TERESA PITMAN

**"S**O WHEN DOES it start getting warm here? March? April?" Political science professor David MacDonald looks a little dismayed when I tell him you can't really count on warm weather until May. It's a natural reaction for someone who's just moved to Guelph from New Zealand, where it's currently summertime.

But as cold as Ontario winters are, says MacDonald, they're a big improvement over the damp, windy winters in Dunedin on New Zealand's south island, where he taught for more than five years at Otago University.

"Dunedin has the climate of Glasgow or Edinburgh and the added bonus of winds straight from the Antarctic," he says.

Here in Guelph, MacDonald and his New Zealander wife, Dana, and their five-year-old son, Gulliver, have been enjoying the snow, taking walks in the conservation areas and tobogganing near their house.

"I have family and friends here, and the people have been very friendly and welcoming, so the move — even in the winter — has been fun."

Despite the stint down under, MacDonald is no stranger to Canadian winters. Raised in Regina, he attended Carleton University and the University of Ottawa before heading to England to earn a PhD in international relations at the London School of Economics. He then spent three years in France teaching at the ESCP-EAP Graduate School of Management in Paris before joining the faculty at Otago, where he also organized conferences on foreign policy and chaired a conference on Canadian studies.

MacDonald says his academic travels have given him added perspective for his research and writing on international political science issues.

"Much of what I do looks at group identity, nationalism and national identity within the field of in-

ternational relations," he says.

In particular, he's been studying how various groups have sought to adopt the idea of the Jewish Holocaust and apply it to their own history and situation to gain sympathy and moral capital or to justify their actions. His first book, published in 2002, was called *Balkan Holocausts?* and subtitled *Serbian and Croatian Victim-Centred Propaganda and the War in Yugoslavia*. The basic theme of the book is that both Serbians and Croats portrayed themselves as victims of a kind of "holocaust" and in that way justified their actions in the war.

MacDonald extends this analysis to other countries such as Australia, New Zealand and the United States and marginalized groups in these countries in a new book published last month called *Identity Politics in the Age of Genocide: The Holocaust and Historical Representation*.

In chapters he contributed to another book he co-edited, *The Ethics of Foreign Policy*, he addresses a topic he's currently studying: the United States after the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

"In the past, you frequently saw American activists raising concerns about the plight of certain groups, and the state or government was seen to be the oppressor, the bad guy. Many people on the political right were critical of this because they saw it as undermining American ideals and identity. After 9/11, however, there was a shift. Now the political right sees the American government and values as being under siege. They present the States as the victim of irrational prejudices, and some have even called anti-Americanism the 'twin brother' of anti-Semitism."

When European countries disagree with American policy, for example, this is presented as an irrational hatred towards the United States, he says.

MacDonald is currently expanding this critique of the U.S. response to the terrorist attack into another book. At the same time, he's looking at how the Holocaust has affected the

way indigenous groups represent their history. For example, some First Nations activists describe the large-scale removal of children to residential schools in Canada as a holocaust.

Canada isn't the only country where children were removed from native families, he says.

"Australia has had intense debate about whether some of their policies around removing children from aboriginal families was genocide or whether the effects on the aboriginal culture were as dramatic as some claim. The debate has become known as the History Wars, which is really about how these events in Australian history should be portrayed."

He finds it interesting that Canadians don't discuss similar issues around this country's treatment of First Nations people with the same passion and concern that Australians do.

MacDonald isn't sure the labels matter — or are helpful.

"I'm a team leader as part of an initiative that's organizing a conference in Yugoslavia to see if we can create something more positive there. My goal is to emphasize the things the people have in common and the patterns of co-operation and working together that existed before the conflict. It has to do with questions of identity, about how people see themselves and their relationships to other groups, but it's also about how you overcome a very negative past and move on to a peaceful co-existence."

After living abroad for the past 11 years, MacDonald says he's very happy to be back home in Canada.

"I visited Guelph last year and was very impressed with the Department of Political Science and its people. And the University has an excellent reputation in New Zealand and Australia. In fact, one of my former colleagues is keen to come over here for his sabbatical. Also, I'm looking more at North American politics at the moment, so it makes sense to be in this part of the world."

## Digital Ontario Symposium Set

Event aims to improve how province uses Internet access

**I**NCORPORATING high-speed Internet into the lives of Ontarians is the focus of the Digital Ontario Symposium running March 5 and 6.

Hosted by U of G's Snowden Program in Communications for Social and Environmental Change in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Government and Consumer Services, the two-day event is aimed at developing strategies to improve how the province uses high-speed Internet access.

"The goal is to bring together academics, practitioners and policy professionals to explore our collective capacity to contribute to Ontario's digital future and realize the benefits of broadband," says Prof. Helen Hamblly, School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, who works with the Snowden Program.

"We need to develop new broadband strategies that look at access in rural areas as well as ways of using broadband for community engagement and economic competitiveness."

On March 5, academics from universities across North America as well as representatives from the province, the Information Technology Association of Canada, the Canadian Urban Institute and the Ontario Rural Council will give talks and participate in panel discussions at the Delta Guelph Hotel and Conference Centre.

Topics include "A Snapshot of Broadband in Canada," "Looking Ahead at Broad-Based Efforts for Broadband Strategies," "Action and Approaches for the Digital Future," "Rethinking Remoteness for the Future of Governance, Leadership and Strategic Partnerships" and "Civic Intelligence and Social Entrepreneurship for the Digital Future."

On March 6, participants will gather at the Arboretum Centre to discuss strategies and action plans for local, provincial, national and international initiatives.

For more information and to register for the symposium, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/snowden/digital\\_ontario.html](http://www.uoguelph.ca/snowden/digital_ontario.html).

## CIP Initiative Aims to Lessen Impact of Student Travel

Program designed to help offset carbon emissions

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**T**HE CENTRE for International Programs (CIP) is launching "FairAir," an initiative designed to help offset the carbon emissions of flights taken by students studying abroad.

In partnership with Planetair, a non-profit organization that sells carbon credits, CIP has set up an online account where students can calculate how much carbon is produced by their air travel and determine the number of credits it would take to offset the emissions. Students can then choose to buy credits from Planetair to offset their flights.

CIP will launch "FairAir" with a videoconference featuring Planetair program manager Julian Lee Feb. 28 at 10 a.m. in Rozanski Hall. Lee will explain the carbon offsetting and answer questions from the audience.

Each year, 200 to 250 U of G students study overseas, and up to 300 travel abroad for conferences, research, field trips and co-op terms, says study-abroad manager Lisa Blenkinsop.

"Studying abroad has so many educational benefits, and we still want to provide students with this great opportunity," she says, "but we also want to find ways to reduce the impact that travelling overseas has

**FairAir**  
**Airfare** →  
on the environment."

A typical flight overseas would cost about \$50 in carbon credits, she says.

"Because some students might not be able to afford it, CIP also plans to start a scholarship program aimed at funding the purchase of carbon credits."

Planetair puts the carbon credits towards environmental projects across the globe, such as increasing the use of renewable energy in developing countries.

In addition to this new initiative, CIP's website offers tips on ways students can be environmentally conscious while booking their flights. Suggestions include flying during the day because daytime flying is thought to have less of an impact on the environment than flying at night, and packing light so the plane will burn less fuel.

The site also gives tips on how to be an environmentally responsible tourist. These include drinking tap water when it's safe rather than using bottled water, buying local food and taking trains or buses to travel instead of planes.



# From Fish to Philosophy

Prof's interests in life span conservation biology and what's behind human emotions

BY TERESA PITMAN

**P**ROF. STEFAN LINQUIST, Philosophy, is glad to be back in the same country as his aquarium. No, he's not talking about a tank of tropical fish to accessorize his living room. Linquist, who spent two years in Australia before joining U of G in January, is one of the founders of the Ucluelet Aquarium on Vancouver Island.

"It's a unique aquarium that tries to teach people about the environment and is very hands-on," he says. "People put their hands in the touch tanks and get to know more about aquatic animals. In fact, I find people are often astonished to learn about the huge variety of marine life that can be found locally."

The aquarium also features a powerful microscope connected to a TV screen that allows people to examine samples taken from the tanks. The fish and other marine life, after educating and entertaining the visitors for a period of time, will then be returned to their natural environment.

"The aquarium is definitely a fun thing to be involved in," says Linquist.

Fun, yes, but a public aquarium seems an unlikely project for a philosopher. In his case, though, it's a perfect fit. He first took an interest in biology while pursuing his philosophy degree at Simon Fraser University. He then went on to earn a master's degree in biology at Binghamton University in New York and a PhD at Duke University, where there's a centre for the philosophy of biology. It seemed the perfect melding of Linquist's interests.

"I'm a curious philosopher who got seduced by the philosophical issues in biology," he says. "I realized that there are many interesting questions in biology that relate to philosophy, especially around adaptation and evolution."

His thesis examined evolutionary approaches to understanding human emotions, especially the more complex or moral ones such as romantic jealousy, guilt and shame.

"Some of these seem to scream out for an evolutionary mechanism, but it's also clear that there are cultural influences. The kind of things we get jealous about or feel ashamed of, for example, depend on our culture."

Certain emotions — most notably fear — seem to be innate and biologically preprogrammed, but Linquist says that model doesn't apply to the more complex emotions he's been studying.

"They can't be genetically hard-wired because they're so culturally variable. Yet they also seem to be adaptive. My thesis looked at these emotions through a model of gene-culture co-evolution, one that says natural selection can act on genes or culture or both together."

After completing his thesis, Linquist did a two-year post-doctoral stint in Queensland, Australia, working on a research grant to study biohumanities.



Thinking about nature — human and otherwise — is the focus of philosophy professor Stefan Linquist. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

"That's a broad field," he acknowledges. "It covers theoretical issues in biology other than ethics. I ended up working on some issues in ecology."

In one area, he looked at the role of mathematical models in conservation biology. "These models are used to assess environmental issues, predict the effects of changes and ultimately make recommendations for conservation."

The challenge is, how much can you trust the model? Is there the right amount of detail within the model to give you the results you need? Have all the potential factors been incorporated into the model?

"As a philosopher, I try to give a systematic accounting of the debate and the issues and the conceptual implications of these questions," says Linquist, explaining how this project brought together his understanding of biology, his concerns about the environment and his philosophical analysis.

After two years down under, he decided to return to Canada — albeit several provinces away from where he started. Although he loved exploring the Australian outdoors, he says he always knew he'd eventually come back home. "And coming to Guelph was a great opportunity," he says.

He's also happy to be back in Canada for this May's reopening of the Ucluelet Aquarium (after being open for two years as a pilot project, it closed temporarily until additional funding was obtained).

"I would love at some point to bring some classes from Guelph to the aquarium," he says. "The region is a case study for environmental issues, with long-standing tensions

among conservation, industry, First Nation and tourism interests. It's fascinating to talk to people with these different perspectives. The aquarium is right in the middle of all this, with connections to the various points of view."

Linquist says he feels "very lucky to have worked with so many interesting people. And now I'm looking forward to teaching and working with my new colleagues at U of G."

# U of G, City Team Up to Talk About the Birds and Bees

Symposium to discuss world's first pollination park

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**T**URNING A GARBAGE DUMP into a bloom-filled haven for birds, butterflies and other pollinating insects is the vision the Guelph Pollination Initiative has for a local landfill site.

In an effort to educate others about this vision to create the world's first pollination park, the initiative is hosting a daylong symposium March 7 at the Guelph Youth Music Centre open to anyone interested in the project.

Hosted by U of G and the City of Guelph, the event will focus on plans to turn Guelph's Eastview landfill site into an urban habitat for pollinators by designing the 100 acres to include plant species that attract pollinators.

The Guelph project involves University experts in urban landscape architecture, plant agriculture, integrative biology, environmental biology and geography who will work with city planners and landfill management engineers.

The goal is for the site to be a model for future pollination parks, intended to help stem a worldwide decline in pollinators that has many people worried about future food supplies.

The symposium begins at 9 a.m., with registration at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$5, including lunch.

"We want Guelph residents and people who are interested in the project to come out," says Prof. Karen Landman of the School of Environ-

mental Design and Rural Development, one of the lead researchers in the pollination park project. "It's about bringing people with a variety of backgrounds together to generate ideas about how pollination habitat can be built back into the landscape. Anyone can play a role in rebuilding the environment."

Landman will speak on design options for landfill sites. Also presenting from the University are environmental biology graduate student Marianna Horn, who will talk about the importance of pollination, and engineering professor Ed McBean, who will discuss the features of landfill sites.

Other speakers include Julianna Tuell of Michigan State University, who will focus on native plants and their pollinators; Gordon Frankie of the University of California, Berkeley, who will describe urban pollination in California; and Steven Handel of Rutgers University, who will discuss restoration of landfill sites. Guelph city councillor Vicki Beard will also speak.

The general public is also invited to attend the March 8 Canadian Pollinator Protection Initiative meeting, where experts in pollination and pollinator habitat will share ideas. This event begins at 9 a.m. at the Guelph Youth Music Centre, with registration at 8:30 a.m. Cost is \$5.

For more information and to register in advance for the events, send e-mail to [pollinateguelph@gmail.com](mailto:pollinateguelph@gmail.com).

## YOUR PREFERRED

### Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM



**Save Up To 50% In Insurance Product Discounts plus Your Group Discount!**

Call today for a no-obligation quote  
Toll Free 1-800-482-0822  
Local 519-836-5700  
Or visit our website at [www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)

**Waterloo Insurance**  
A member of The Economical Insurance Group  
Visit us at [www.economicalinsurance.com](http://www.economicalinsurance.com)



# Bits of Life

It's life, the universe and a computer program for cross-campus project on the nature of proteins

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**S**TUDY A PROTEIN — a tangled string of amino acids folded just so. How to tease out the most important bits allowing that molecule to perform the myriad biochemical reactions that sustain our lives? Try using bits of silicon.

In a cross-campus pairing that evokes everything from the Human Genome Project to *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, a U of G biologist and two computing experts are using the analytical tools and number-crunching power of computers to develop a new way to analyze information in genes and in the proteins they make.

Work by environmental biology professor Jack Trevors, Prof. David

Chiu, Computing and Information Science (CIS), and Kirk Durston, a PhD student of Chiu's, may ultimately yield insights that help us understand human disease from cancer to microbial infection and help us learn more about evolutionary pathways linking various living things.

They discussed their ideas in a paper published late last year in *Theoretical Biology and Medical Modeling*. The paper, called "Measuring the Functional Sequence Complexity of Proteins," was also co-authored by David Abel, program director at the Origin-of-Life Foundation based in Maryland and a longtime collaborator of Trevors'.

Under a microscope, the three-dimensional tangle of a protein looks

like just that: a molecular thicket, with one part as complex as the next. But not all parts of the protein are as complicated — or as important — as others. The Guelph scientists have developed a computer formula for cutting through the tangle and finding the key functional parts of the protein.

They believe their work will help other researchers in several ways. Scientists hunting down the cause of the next pandemic threat, for example, might use computing to help pinpoint vital differences in deadly and benign strains of the same disease-causing virus or bacteria. Other researchers might be able to zero in on key regions of proteins that help bacteria evade antibiotics, a growing

problem particularly in hospitals and long-term-care facilities.

Scientists might also find better ways to predict or pinpoint cancer-causing mutations. In about half of human cancer cases, the gene encoding the p53 protein, which normally suppresses tumour growth, is disrupted. That makes the gene a likely target for cancer researchers.

More complex sites on the protein are more likely to be implicated in those mutations that affect its normal tumour-suppressing function.

"Studying the molecule tells you what the gene looks like, and that tells you about cancer," says Chiu, an expert in pattern analysis.

Durston, the paper's lead author, wrote a computer program that runs

through sequences of amino acids — the chemical building blocks of proteins — and uses probability to find areas of the molecule that are especially key to the protein's workings. (Following undergraduate studies in engineering and physics and a master's degree in philosophy at the University of Manitoba, he is now completing a biophysics degree, a first for a CIS student.)

The researchers tested their model on 35 protein families, including ubiquitin, a small regulatory protein that looks the same in living things from yeast to humans. Out of seven key sites identified by their measure, six are known to help the protein attach to other molecules.

Showing how the results of his number-crunching yield a 3-D graphic illustration on his laptop, Durston points to peaks that represent those key areas.

"This plot shows which parts are important," he says — perhaps enabling the protein to push along chemical reactions in a cell or allowing it to bind to a target molecule.

Durston had contacted Trevors after reading a paper about protein sequence complexity written by the biologist and Abel. Within the Origin-of-Life Foundation, Abel runs a project intended to learn how instructions for making proteins arose in genetic material.

Trevors and Abel have written about genes as strings of digital instructions akin to computer programs. Says Trevors: "My interest is in how genetic instructions become embedded in DNA to allow organisms to exist."

He hopes to learn more about relationships between living things by looking at the functional complexity of their proteins and DNA instructions that make them.

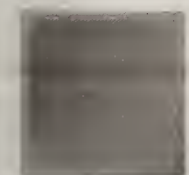
Purely random sequences of DNA would yield gobbledygook rather than a recipe for making a useful protein, he says. At the other extreme, rigidly ordered patterns would offer too little scope for nature's "experimentation" through mutations.

What's needed between "too hot" and "too cold" is a number that's just right, one that represents the kind of complexity needed for a genetic sequence that can make a working protein. Call it "42," he quips, referring to a computer's ultimate answer to the question of life, the universe and everything in Douglas Adams's series of novels called *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*.

Trevors says this tag team of biologists and physical scientists underlines Guelph's interdisciplinary strengths. "Sometimes you don't have to go halfway around the world to find collaborators."

For Chiu, the project reflects a paradox in the Human Genome Project. Scientists have read the human genome's text — all three billion chemical base pairs' worth.

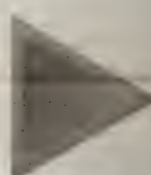
"But that's not the big story," he says. "The big story is how to interpret them."



**STOP**  
IN AT H&R BLOCK



**FAST**  
TAX PREP



**START**  
SPENDING

**Students, come in for your tax preparation and get instant cash back in just one visit.**



come in today or call  
1-800-HRBLOCK (472-5625)  
[www.hrblock.ca](http://www.hrblock.ca)



**H&R BLOCK®**

To qualify for student pricing, students must present either (i) a T2202a documenting 4 or more months of full-time attendance at a college or university during 2007 or (ii) a valid high school identification card. Expires July 31, 2008. Must also qualify for Instant Cash Back and Cash Back products. See office for details. Valid only at participating H&R Block locations in Canada. SPC Card offers valid from 04/01/07 to 03/31/08 at participating locations in Canada only. For Cardholder only. Offers may vary, restrictions may apply. Usage may be restricted when used in conjunction with any other offer or reward loyalty card discounts. Cannot be used towards the purchase of gift cards or certificates.



## DIYA SHARMA

Third-year student in biological sciences

Maintaining high grades while finding time to pursue her musical interests has been a tough balancing act for Diya Sharma, who aspires to study veterinary medicine and is applying for entry this year. A singer since childhood, Sharma has been taking formal voice training since age 12 and has performed at a number of competitions and events over the past decade.

"I really enjoy it. It's hard to verbalize the feeling I get from it. It's therapeutic. If I'm happy, I sing. If I'm sad, I sing. It allows me to explore a range of feelings."

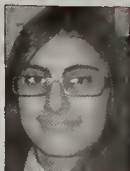
Sharma performs regularly at the Athletics Centre, where she takes centre court to sing *O Canada* at Gryphon games. "It's a lot of fun. I love to look out and see everyone singing along with me and coming together."

She's also part of the chorus in *Zombie Prom*, a musical Curtain Call Productions is staging March 13 to 15 at War Memorial Hall. "I get to sing, dance and act. I'm a triple threat."

One day she'd like to record an album and follow in the footsteps of her older sister, Parul, a singer-songwriter who has worked with producers from Universal Music and Sony. "My sister is incredibly talented. I'm so proud of her."

In pursuit of her goal of becoming a veterinarian, Sharma does volunteer work at the Ontario Veterinary College. "I'm helping out with junior surgery by getting the student surgeons equipment and instruments when they need me to, running errands, restocking, contributing whatever I can."

She's also part of Foal Watch, a group at OVC that helps monitor foals in critical need of care.



Diya Sharma

homes can't be found for them, or if they're considered unadoptable for behavioural or medical reasons, they will be euthanized. That's where Ontario Rabbit Rescue steps in. Volunteers like Billington provide foster homes and socialize the rabbits, and Rabbit Rescue arranges spays, neuters and medical care as required. In some cases, that medical treatment can be extensive.

"One of my hunnies, Otis, really shows what Rabbit Rescue is all about," she says. "Rabbits need to have their top and bottom teeth perfectly lined up. Otherwise, the teeth won't wear down properly, and in time the animals are unable to eat. Otis has malocclusion — his teeth don't line up — and when he was rescued, he was starving. Rabbit Rescue had his incisors removed and other dental work done, and now he's a wonderful pet."

Although it's hard to say goodbye to her foster hunnies, "it's very rewarding to see a rabbit that came to you scared and unhappy become healthy and friendly and find a home with a new family," says Billington.

She encourages anyone interested in fostering or adopting a rabbit to check out the organization's website at [www.rabbitrescue.ca](http://www.rabbitrescue.ca).

## SKY GILBERT

Faculty member in the School of English and Theatre Studies and University Research Chair in Creative Writing and Theatre Studies, joined U of G in 1997

As a youngster growing up in Buffalo, Sky Gilbert had a neighbour who loved to listen to opera. His reaction was just what you'd expect from a child. "It sounded like screeching to me, and I thought it was icky and stupid," says Gilbert.

Much has changed. "I've always loved music — I even considered music as a career before I went into theatre," he says. "Opera combines my interests in both those areas, and many operas are based on melodrama, which I'm especially interested in."

Gilbert describes himself as a typical opera lover who attends performances as often as he can, although he's a particular fan of French opera, which isn't as well-known. He admits he has an advantage over many opera enthusiasts, however. The Silver Ticket Award he received a few years ago from the Toronto Theatre Alliance for his many contributions to Toronto theatre included lifetime free admission to a variety of theatre performances, including opera.

Some of his favourites include works by French composer Massenet, Donizetti's *The Elixir of Love* and Richard Strauss's *Der Rosenkavalier*. "I'm a big fan of Strauss but not most German opera," he adds.

Gilbert likes to listen to opera when he's writing. "Because it's in a foreign language, it doesn't disturb my thought processes or interfere with what I'm writing." But he finds that listening to a performance just once isn't good enough. "You have to play opera again and again before it really clicks and registers with you. I have to listen to one about 20 times to really hear it and identify the melodies and tunes."

Although he has his favourites, Gilbert says he's always looking for new favourites and appreciates any suggestions of composers and operas he might enjoy.



Sky Gilbert

# 'Zerofootprint' Calculator Lets You Measure Your Ecological Impact

Online tool offers advice on how to shrink footprint

BY LORI BONA HUNT

U OF G RECENTLY launched its web-based "Zerofootprint," a cutting-edge tool that will allow people to measure their ecological footprint and reduce their collective impact on the environment.

The University teamed up with Zerofootprint, a Toronto-based non-profit agency, last fall to develop the initiative as part of Guelph's environmental sustainability efforts. It involves a web-based calculator allowing people to estimate and analyze the impact of daily activities such as car travel and electricity use on the environment.

Located at <http://zerofootprint.net/calculators/guelph>, the online tool is unique because it not only calculates people's carbon footprint but it also determines their land, water and tree footprint. For example, the calculator shows users how much carbon is emitted into the atmosphere based on the distance their food has travelled or how much land and water are required to sustain their diet.

It also offers users advice on how to modify habits and behaviours to shrink their footprint, including setting goals and tracking successes online.

U of G is the first post-secondary institution to engage its entire community in climate change by encouraging members to measure and manage their environmental footprint.

"No one is in a better position to take advantage of the opportunities the Zerofootprint calculator presents than the University," says president Alastair Summerlee. "The calculator is a way to take social action online. Change has always been about the individual acting as part of a collective

— that's what the calculator allows."

Gathering data on transportation, energy use, food, waste, consumption and other areas will allow Zerofootprint to know exactly what U of G is doing right and where it can "tread more lightly," says Deborah Kaplan, Zerofootprint's executive director.

"The University of Guelph is a leader in sustainability and environmental awareness, and now it is taking the next step," she says. "It's not exaggeration to say that what we need is a revolution, and that's what students have always been interested in."

As part of the initiative, the information obtained from the University community will be compiled and a total environmental impact will be measured. With the help of Zerofootprint, U of G will determine ways of reducing its collective footprint. Thousands of alumni, faculty, staff and students are expected to take part.

"By using the calculator, people will not only come to a greater understanding of where their biggest impacts are but they will also be empowered to make changes in their lifestyle," says Gillian Maurice, the University's sustainability co-ordinator.

## DEBBIE BILLINGTON

Customer services representative in Classroom Technical Support, Teaching Support Services, joined U of G in 2002

"People have a lot of misconceptions about rabbits," says Debbie Billington. "They think they're these cute and cuddly little hunnies, but if they're not spayed or neutered or treated properly, they can be very unhappy little creatures."

Billington should know. An active member of Ontario Rabbit Rescue, she is currently fostering four hunnies that have been rescued but are awaiting adoptive homes. She also has a number of rabbits of her own, as well as two dogs, two cats and two birds sharing a house with her husband and two kids.

"When I've had a hard day, I can de-stress just by spending time with my hunnies," she says.

She discovered her love for the long-eared pets when she was volunteering with the Guelph Humane Society.

"I was always drawn to the hunnies. There was one in particular that literally dragged his cage across the room and started tugging at my pant leg. I knew he had to come home with me."

Shelters are often overflowing with hunnies, and if



Debbie Billington

Guelph Chamber Choir

Guelph Chamber Choir

GERALD NEUFELD conductor

and Musica Viva Orchestra

THE ULTIMATE CLASSIC

Albert Greer | Uriel  
Geoffrey Sirett | Raphael / Adam  
Marion Samuel-Stevens | Gabriel / Eve

Haydn

*The Creation*

MARCH 29, 2008 8 PM

River Run Centre, Guelph

BRIDGE TALK  
Prof. Thomas King  
6:45 - 7:30 pm

Composed in 1798 at the height of Haydn's creative genius, this epic work recounts the Biblical creation story followed by love duets of Adam and Eve based on Milton's *Paradise Lost*.

TICKETS:  
\$30 adult • \$10 student • \$5 [eyeGO.org](http://eyeGO.org)  
Order by phone 519-763-3000 or toll-free 1-877-520-2408 or on-line at [www.riverun.ca](http://www.riverun.ca)

## AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date	Deadline
March 12	March 4
March 26	March 18
April 9	April 1
April 23	April 15
May 7	April 29
May 21	May 13
June 4	May 27
June 18	June 10



# Doing the Bird Dance

OVC staff member's macaw bobs its way into TV ads

BY ANDREW VOWLES

THEY'RE ALL DANCERS in Nathalie Lemieux's family. Tap and hip hop are after-hours favourites for this teaching lab technician in the Department of Pathobiology. Her husband teaches ballroom dancing, and all four of their daughters attend weekly classes at a local studio. Now they've added another dancer — one that comes complete with blue and gold feathered costume — to the family conga line.

This new-found talent is so good, she's now starring in a TV commercial. Unlike many macaws, Lacey doesn't say much, but the six-year-old bird sure can dance.

Lacey appears in a new Telus ad that also features a scarlet macaw and what appear to be several of its blue and gold cousins. But most of the latter images are a single bird — Lacey, bobbing up and down to the beat of *Jamba* by Toronto R&B singer-songwriter Anjulie.

Currently airing in Western Canada, the ad has also recently popped up on YouTube ([gtpc.ca/news.html](http://gtpc.ca/news.html)). It's one of the popular Telus series of ads starring fish, frogs, hippos, rabbits, monkeys and other "spokes-critters."

The shoot last fall at a Toronto film studio involved six psittacine actors. Among them, Lacey was the only dancer. But thanks to editing magic, the Guelph macaw ended up playing most of the birds that appear in the commercial — bobbing, dancing, walking in circles, lifting her feet and wings. "They liked her so much, they just cloned her over and over," says Lemieux.

Shooting started at 9 a.m. and ended at 8 p.m., but it was worth the time and effort, she says. Besides gaining TV and Internet fame, Lacey

received \$600 for her work.

She'd been recommended by a Toronto animal handler who regularly lines up birds for film gigs. The commercial producers had initially arranged to use another bird but then decided they wanted a blue and gold macaw.

Lemieux ended up working, too — singing, clapping and encouraging her macaw on the set to keep dancing. "I was a one-time animal wrangler."

She says the YouTube clip has been popular at home. "My daughters have made us play the ad a gazillion times. We're a dancing family. Lacey was a perfect match for us."

For most macaws and other parrots, dancing is less of a claim to fame than speaking — or at least mimicking their owners' speech. But Lemieux says it's easy to get many birds to show off their terpsichorean tendencies. "A lot of birds love to dance. They will respond to the beat. It's also part of their mating ritual."

It takes her no time to encourage her pet to perform its bobbing routine on her forearm. Try to get the bird to speak, however, and she remains mute.

"For a macaw, she's very quiet," says Lemieux, president of the Golden Triangle Parrot Club and a longtime participant in the former Wild Bird Clinic and WEEP (Wildlife Education and Environmental Programs). "She's more a dancer than a talker."

Lemieux has kept parrots for years. Besides Lacey, she has five other birds at home, many of them regular teaching aids for students at the Ontario Veterinary College.

This month, a production company called her about another gig for Lacey, this time for a lottery commercial in Atlantic Canada.



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held at the end of the semester for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by Feb. 29 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to [r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Feb. 13 photo was of a section of a mural on the history of U of G that lines the hallway outside the President's Office on Level 4 of the University Centre: Matt Edwards, Judy O'Donnell, Alex Fretwell, Bill Clair, Danny Martin, Karen MacDonald and John Van Manen.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

## Fundraising Campaign Launched

Continued from page 1

iBOL expects to raise \$50 million in Canada. During the past five years, Hebert's bar-coding research has been supported by Genome Canada through the Ontario Genomics Institute, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council, the Canada Research Chairs program and the Ontario

government through the Ontario Innovation Trust, Ontario Research Fund and Ministry of Research and Innovation.

The iBOL consortium expects to raise another \$100 million outside of Canada. Argentina, Australia, India, Mexico, China, Costa Rica and the United States have already made commitments. Hebert expects 25

countries to join iBOL over the next year.

The official launch of the international fundraising campaign for iBOL was held Feb. 18 at the Australian Museum in Sydney. At the launch, Wilkinson, who attended with Hebert, announced that the Ontario government will commit an additional \$150,000 to the project.



**HUMBER**

School of Applied Technology



In just two semesters at Humber, you could upgrade your degree with a postgraduate certificate in

**Wireless Telecommunications,  
Supply Chain Management  
or Project Management.**

## Make technology work for you.

Apply now and be well on your way to a successful career in technology.

[humber.ca/makeitwork](http://humber.ca/makeitwork)

## February is Heart Month

For information, visit  
[www.heartandstroke.com](http://www.heartandstroke.com).

### On-Campus PARKING NOTICE

On Thursday, March 13, and Friday, March 14, P14 and 15 (adjacent to the Child-Care and Learning Centre and Alumni House) will be reserved for **Campus Days** visitors only.

Please plan to use alternate parking lots P13 (near Maritime Hall), P18 (near East Residence) and P19 (near Lambton Hall).

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated as the University of Guelph welcomes prospective students and their families to **Campus Days**, one of our most important on-campus recruitment events of the year.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

Four Blizzak snow tires on rims, 215/70R15, five-bolt, barely used, Ext. 52864 or 519-824-9247.

Galboa eight-jet bathtub; Craftsman 7.5-inch bandsaw with stand; 28-inch Sony Trinitron colour TV; JVC DVD player with Dolby, AV Compulink; two adjustable bed frames on casters; antique barrel topper with screw, clamps and known history; antique oak desk converted to computer desk, needs new top veneer, 519-846-9458 week-end evenings or gboland@uoguelph.ca.

Two solid pine bookshelves, hand-made, one large and one small, good condition, Karla, 519-826-9041.

Three-bedroom yellow-brick house on quarter-acre lot on Preston Street, 519-835-5695 or ninepres-ton@rogers.com.

## FOR RENT

One- or two-bedroom furnished executive apartment for visiting professionals, centrally located with all amenities, \$625 a week or \$1,575 a month, 519-826-0408 or visit [www.bbc.guelph.org/toadhall](http://www.bbc.guelph.org/toadhall).

Furnished two-bedroom house, walking distance to campus and downtown, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, parking and all amenities, available for short-term rental from April to August 2008, \$1,250 a month inclusive, photos available, [mmaidmen@uoguelph.ca](mailto:mmaidmen@uoguelph.ca).

Cottage in Southampton for summer season, sleeps four, gas fireplace, private treed lot, close to lake,

downtown and golf courses, Melody, Ext. 54337, 519-836-6264 or [m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca).

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or [fmoll@rogers.com](mailto:fmoll@rogers.com).

## AVAILABLE

Experienced teacher offering guitar lessons for children and adults, beginners welcome, Chris, 519-822-6132.

Fiddle/mandolin and acoustic guitar lessons at your location, more than 30 years of musical experience, Matthew, 519-822-0013 or [mjglass1@hotmail.com](mailto:mjglass1@hotmail.com).

Well-behaved, friendly six-year-old cat looking for new home, in great health, great with children, [kpreibis@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kpreibis@uoguelph.ca) or [shenson@uoguelph.ca](mailto:shenson@uoguelph.ca).

Student-run franchises for summer work, visit [www.studentlandscapers.com](http://www.studentlandscapers.com).

Housecleaning, competitive rates, excellent references, 519-821-8804.

**To Truly Know and Understand Animals**  
Get to know things from the animal's perspective.

**Claudia Hehr,**  
Animal Communications  
Specialist, Author,  
Speaker, Coach.

Private consultations, tele-classes,  
seminars, group discounts.  
[www.claudiahehr.com](http://www.claudiahehr.com)  
Tel.: 705-434-4679

## WANTED

Subjects needed for study on benefits of exercise in overweight children aged six to 14, Kevin, 647-290-3689 or [kyan@uoguelph.ca](mailto:kyan@uoguelph.ca), or Karen, 519-546-9340 or [hodgson@uoguelph.ca](mailto:hodgson@uoguelph.ca).

Female to share home in south end with young professional woman with physical disability, private bedroom, bath and office, shared kitchen and living space, use of backyard, free parking, rent negotiable in exchange for some assistance with activities of daily living, references required, [burtan8471@rogers.com](mailto:burtan8471@rogers.com).

Responsible working mother with toddler seeks home to rent near downtown Guelph, non-smoker, no pets, property management experience, references available, will also consider shared living situation, 519-767-5758 or [rebekahjamieson@hotmail.com](mailto:rebekahjamieson@hotmail.com).

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 821-7800  
Fax (519) 821-7810

For information about  
paid advertising in *At Guelph*,  
contact Scott Anderson at  
519-827-9169 or  
[theandersondifference@rogers.com](mailto:theandersondifference@rogers.com).



**Campus Hardware Limited**  
1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag



**ClickSIGNS** 519 824-4120  
Visit us at the University Centre Ext. 58031

## Banner Stands

Order new or we can print new graphics  
for your existing banner stand



Banner-Up Retractable

Large Format Printing By  
**Roland**

[www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)

## FEBRUARY LAMINATE FLOORING EXTRAVAGANZA

8.3 mm Laminate Flooring  
4 colours to choose from  
Reg. 1.29 sq. ft.  
Only 99 cents sq. ft.

FIND MANY OTHER SPECIALS!  
Run to Rona Cashway  
Guelph Store Only



55 Dawson Road, Guelph  
519-821-5744

## MONTESSORI

SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON  
established 1996



- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR  
SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**

(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
[www.montessori-school.ca](http://www.montessori-school.ca)

Business Travel - Travel Tools - Cruises - Packages - Seat Sales - Air Only



Flights



Cars



Hotels



Packages



Minute



Cruises

**Your NEW Local On-Line Booking Agent**

For Last Minute Bookings ...

**Book Online**

[www.royalcitytravel.com](http://www.royalcitytravel.com)



AIR CANADA

Ont. Reg. NBR02716341

**ROYAL CITY TRAVEL**

ROYAL PLAZA (Norfolk & Paisley) Guelph, ON

**763-3520** [www.royalcitytravel.com](http://www.royalcitytravel.com)



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

The Theatre in the Trees dinner-theatre production of *The Love List* by Norm Foster continues weekends until April 26. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

Horticulturist Sean Fox presents "The Art and Practice of Pruning" March 18, 19 or 20 from 1 to 4:30 p.m. Cost is \$30. Registration and payment are required by March 4. Call Ext. 52358.

"An Ecological Vegetable Garden" is the focus of a workshop led by Denise Jupp March 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$35. Registration is recommended by March 12.

Naturalist Chris Earley leads a duck workshop on bluebills, hickory heads and spiketails March 28 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. March 14 is the deadline for registration and payment.

"Beginner's Digital Photography — Point and Shoot" is the focus of a workshop with photographer Jon Brierley March 29 from 9 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$30. The deadline for registration and payment is March 14.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's brown bag lunch series continues March 4 at noon with Darryl Butler, manager of heritage resources at King's Landing Historical Settlement in New Brunswick, discussing "Thomas Nisbet and the Furniture Makers of Saint John, N.B., the Commercial Capital of the 19th-Century Maritimes."

## COLLOQUIUM

The Faculty of Environmental Sciences and the Department of Physics are co-hosting a colloquium featuring Jesse Ausubel, director of the Program for the Human Environment at Rockefeller University in New York, March 11 at 4 p.m. in UC 103. He will discuss "Fallout From Renewable Energy Systems." A reception will follow at the University Club.

## CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues Feb. 28 with cellist Rachel Mercer and pianist Marianna Humetska and March 6 with Prof. Ellen Waterman on flute and Joe Sorbara on drums presenting "Sounding the Full Circle: Malcolm Goldstein in Concert." On March 13, soprano Marion Samuel-Stevens performs vocal works of Ronald Beckett, accompanied by the composer. Concerts start at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107. Admission is free, but donations are welcome.

## FILM

The Spanish studies program in the School of Languages and Literatures is hosting a series of Mexican and Spanish films, beginning Feb. 27 with *Cilantro y perejil* and continuing March 3 with *Solas*. Both begin at 5:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 020. On March 11, *Familia* runs at 5:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 312.

Docurama, a film series sponsored by the U of G Library and the Central Student Association, continues March 5 with *The Greatest Silence: Rape in the Congo* and March 12 with *All in This Tea*. The free screenings begin at 7 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

## LECTURES

OAC's public lecture series presents Prof. Amar Mohanty, U of G's Premier's Research Chair in Biomaterials and Transportation, Feb. 27 at 5:45 p.m. in OVC 1714. He will discuss "The New Agriculture: The Journey for a Sustainable Bioeconomy."

Prof. Peter Goddard, a candidate for the position of chair of the Department of History, will give a public presentation Feb. 28 at 12:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 132.

The Physics Club, the Skeptical and Freethought Society and the Astronomy Club present University of Toronto physicist Robert Orr discussing "What Is the Universe Made Of? The Higgs Boson, Dark Matter and the Large Hadron Collider" Feb. 28 at 7 p.m. in Axelrod 100.

U of G hosts the 2008 Campbell Lecture, a mini-symposium dedicated to promoting nutrition education, March 3 from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in UC 103. The event is free and open to the public. To register, send e-mail to jtitshins@uoguelph.ca.

World-renowned philosopher and art critic Arthur Danto will give the School of Fine Art and Music's second annual Shenkman Lecture in Contemporary Art March 4 at 5 p.m. in War Memorial Hall.

The Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare presents the F.W. Presant Memorial Lecture featuring Joy Mench of the University of California, Davis, discussing "Laying- Hen Welfare: Scientific, Consumer and Industry Perspectives" March 11 at 7 p.m. in OVC 1714.

## NOTICES

U of G, in partnership with the United Way of Guelph and Wellington and the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington, is calling for nominations for the second annual William Winegard Exemplary Volunteer Involvement Awards. Nomination packages are

available at [www.volunteerguelph.wellington.on.ca](http://www.volunteerguelph.wellington.on.ca). The deadline for submissions is March 20.

President Alastair Summerlee is calling for nominations for the President's Awards for Exemplary Staff Service. The awards recognize employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and/or who have made significant contributions to the University community beyond what is expected of their position. Nomination deadline is May 31. For more details, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/president/exemplaryservice](http://www.uoguelph.ca/president/exemplaryservice), call Claire Alexander at Ext. 53098 or send e-mail to [c.alexander@exc.uoguelph.ca](mailto:c.alexander@exc.uoguelph.ca).

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering a four-session program on managing headaches starting March 5 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 335. For more information, pick up a pamphlet at the Info Desk on UC Level 1, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

Counselling Services and the C.J. Munford Centre celebrate Black History Month and the anniversary of the Students of Colour Support Group Feb. 27 from 5 to 7 p.m. in MacKinnon 117. Everyone is welcome.

Fine art students host their annual print show and sale March 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and March 16 from noon to 5 p.m. in Zavitz 207. The sale features lithographs, etchings, and relief and screen prints.

The College of Arts hosts a presentation on the research activities of students who participated in the 2007 London semester Feb. 29 at 2:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 238.

## SEMINARS

Next up in the Department of Chemistry seminar series is Louis Romano of Wayne State University considering "Chemicals and Cancer: Mechanisms of Replicating Carcinogen-Damaged DNA" Feb. 28 at 10:30 a.m. in science complex 1511.

The Department of Pathobiology seminar series continues Feb. 29 at 11 a.m. with Malcolm Gains of the University of Montreal discussing "Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies and Their Mouse Models." On March 7 at 10 a.m., guest speakers are Hans Cheng and Henry Hunt of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Avian Disease and Oncology Lab in Michigan. Cheng's topic is "Applying Genomic Technologies to Identify Marek's Disease Resistance Genes." Hunt will present "Virus Evolution — Has Marek's Stopped Evolving?" The seminars are in Pathobiology 2106.

"Characterization of an Aldolase/Dehydrogenase Complex Involved

in Aromatic Hydrocarbon Degradation" is the focus of Perrin Baker in the microbiology graduate student seminar Feb. 29. On March 7, Kevin Luc discusses "Induced Pluripotent Stem Cells: Turning the Clock Back on Differentiation." The seminars are at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

Prof. John Klironomos, Integrative Biology, is the March 3 guest speaker in the seminar series hosted by the plant biology group in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology. His topic is "Mechanisms of Coexistence in a Mycorrhizal Fungal Community." On March 10, Prof. Lewis Lukens, Plant Agriculture, considers "Genotype-Specific Responses of *Zea mays* to Water Stress." The seminars begin at 3:30 p.m. in science complex 2315.

Café Scientifique, hosted by the Faculty of Environmental Sciences in partnership with the Bookshelf, continues with Prof. Ian Barker, Pathobiology, examining "Emerging Diseases and the Environment" March 4 at 7 p.m. in the Bookshelf Green Room.

Next up in the Department of Psychology's neuroscience and applied cognitive science seminar series is Mark Bouton of the University of Vermont discussing "Context and Memory Processes in Extinction: Some Implications for Understanding Relapse" March 5 at 3:30 p.m. in Rozanski 105.

"What's Left? The Italian (and Other European) Lefts in Search of an Identity" is the focus of Stephen Hellman of York University in the European studies winter speaker series March 5 at 4:30 p.m. in McLaughlin Library 384.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Full details and a registration link for Teaching Support Services programs can be found on the TSS website at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

On March 5, TSS offers a session on Blackboard grading forms for instructors running online Blackboard courses.

The discussion group "Teaching on the Edge" meets March 7 and 28 to share teaching strategies, resources and new approaches to teaching and learning.

TSS hosts a new-faculty luncheon March 12. Graduate studies dean Isobel Heathcote will discuss supervising and advising graduate students.

For sessional instructors, the biweekly discussion group "Supporting Our Sessionals" meets March 12 and 26.

For teaching assistants, the TA professional development series continues with "An Exam Review Game That Works" March 5, "Peer Microteaching" March 10 and "Exam Invigilation" March 12.

## THEATRE

Curtain Call Productions presents *Zombie Prom: The Musical* March 13 to 15 at 8 p.m. and March 15 at 2 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$10 and available at the Central Student Association (CSA) office or at the door. To raise money for the production, Curtain Call is hosting a formal dance called Z-Prom Feb. 29 at 8 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall. Tickets are \$15 and available from the CSA or at the door. For more details, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~curtain](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~curtain).

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Leigh Golden, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program, is March 12 at 9:30 a.m. in Landscape Architecture 202. The thesis is "Serious Leisure, Social Integration and Sustainable Rural Communities: A Collective Case Analysis of Volunteer Experiences Among People Who Are Unemployed and on Social Assistance." The adviser is Prof. Don Reid.

The final examination of PhD candidate Cheryl Ambrose, Integrative Biology, is March 17 at 2 p.m. in science complex 3310. The thesis is "The Structure and Evolution of the Ribosomal DNA Intergenic Spacer in Arthropods." The adviser is Prof. Teresa Crease.

The final examination of Cheryl Johnson, a PhD candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is March 19 at 2:30 p.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "Mammalian Dispersal Behaviour and Its Fitness Consequences." The advisers are Profs. John Fryxell and Ian Thompson.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Guelph Chamber Choir and the DaCapo Chamber Choir perform "Choral Gems" March 1 at 8 p.m. at St. George's Anglican Church. For ticket information, call 519-763-3000.

The Guelph Field Naturalists meet March 13 at 7:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Guest speaker is Peter Kelly, a research associate in the Department of Integrative Biology, who will discuss "The Ancient Cedar Forest of the Niagara Escarpment." Everyone is welcome.

The 33rd annual Big Brothers Big Sisters of Guelph Bowl for Kids Sake campaign runs March 29 to April 1 at Woodlawn Bowl. Teams of four to six bowlers are needed. For more information, call 519-824-5154 or visit [www.bbbsg.ca](http://www.bbbsg.ca).



**INSIDE: RELAY FOR LIFE RUNS MARCH 29 • BUILDING ON THE PAST • BIG IDEAS ON A SMALL SCALE**

## Week Celebrates Co-op Education

*Banquet to honour top co-op students, employer*

**C**ELEBRATING co-op students, employers and their achievements is the focus of National Co-operative Education Week running March 17 to 21 at universities and colleges across Canada.

Here at U of G, the highlight of the week is the annual Co-op Awards Banquet March 18, beginning at 4 p.m. at the Cuten Club. This year's award winners include the Canadian Tire Corporation, which was chosen as Employer of the Year.

U of G co-op students praise the company for helping them build on their strengths and gain new knowledge.

Working for Canadian Tire "was an exemplary eye-opening experience," says student Sanjeet Dhillon. "I believe I have grown as a professional as a result of this experience." Student Veronika Saxena adds that "opportunities to increase my knowledge base were both emphasized and made easily available."

Saxena, who is enrolled in the bachelor of applied computing program at the University of Guelph-Humber, was named Co-op Student of the Year in the science and tech-

nology category. She was nominated by Canadian Tire in Toronto, where she completed a co-op work term as an enterprise architect (EA), working in information technology and business.

Andrea Malick, manager of EA governance at Canadian Tire, describes Saxena as one of the most outstanding co-op students the company has ever had.

"She consistently distinguished herself among a large team of seasoned professionals in a challenging program by consistently setting and achieving high standards," says Malick.

Laura Siverns, a B.A.Sc. student in the child, youth and family program, was named Co-op Student of the Year in the category of business, communications and social sciences. She was nominated by the Guelph Community Health Centre, where she completed a co-op work term as an assistant facilitator.

Teresa Pellizzari, children's program co-ordinator at the centre, says Siverns far exceeded her employer's expectations.

*Continued on page 10*



Turning snowflakes and frozen earth to support the construction of a new large-animal isolation unit at OVC are, from left: Bruce Archibald, Ontario deputy minister of agriculture, food and rural affairs; OVC dean Elizabeth Stone; Prof. Alan Wildeman, vice-president (research); and Liz Sandals, MPP for Guelph-Wellington. PHOTO BY GRANT W. MARTIN PHOTOGRAPHY

## Sod-Turning Signals Start of New Project, Era at OVC

*Isolation unit will set new standard in housing and infection control for horses, improve efficiency and working conditions for veterinary staff and clinicians*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**A**S SOD-TURNING CEREMONY Feb. 29 at the Ontario Veterinary College marked the start of both a major new construction project and a new era at the college.

A state-of-the-art large-animal isolation unit to be built in the southwest corner of the OVC complex will set a new standard in patient housing and infection control for horses. It will be the first major "bricks and mortar" component in a series of initiatives that will anchor the OVC Health Sciences Centre — a bold new vision for the college that will transform the OVC Teaching Hospital and shape the future of the veterinary profession.

"The OVC Health Sciences Centre embodies the increasing relevance of veterinary medicine to society and the importance of OVC and the University to the province and country," says president Alastair Summerlee.

As OVC approaches its 150th anniversary in 2012, the centre will focus the college's efforts on several key initiatives, including a new edu-

cational centre in primary health care and animal welfare; an animal cancer care centre; an equine performance and reproduction centre; and other improvements to the hospital to enable continued delivery of leading-edge medical, surgical and diagnostic imaging services.

Construction of the large-animal isolation unit is being funded through infrastructure grants from the federal and provincial governments, with additional support from U of G.

It's part of a package that also supports construction of a new four-storey building to house the Department of Pathobiology and the Animal Health Laboratory. Completion of that project, which gets under way this spring and is scheduled to finish in 2010, will clear the way for a major expansion of the OVC Teaching Hospital.

"Many clients already see our OVC Teaching Hospital as a kind of 'Mayo Clinic' or 'Hamilton Health Sciences' for animals," says OVC dean Elizabeth Stone. "The creation of the OVC Health Sciences Centre captures what we do and what we

want to do in health-care education, research and service delivery. It is very exciting to be celebrating the start of this long-awaited project. The new isolation unit will be a model in equine patient housing and infection control. Along with our other planned enhancements, it will allow us to continue to provide our clients with excellence in veterinary health care."

When completed late in the fall of 2008, the \$5.6-million isolation unit will enable OVC's equine specialists to stream patients much more effectively. It will enhance their ability to completely separate potentially infectious patients from non-infectious ones.

"Whether our team is treating a competitive racehorse or a child's pony, it is vital to accommodate all patients in appropriate housing," says Don Trout, head of OVC's large-animal clinic. "We have a unique concentration of expertise at OVC. The new isolation unit will give clients yet another reason to feel confident in our ability to provide innovative horse health services in Canada's equine heartland."

## Leave for Change a Win-Win Program

*Employees can volunteer knowledge, skills overseas*

**U**OF G IS AGAIN sponsoring employees to participate in the Leave for Change program, giving regular full-time staff and faculty an opportunity to volunteer their knowledge and skills overseas during short assignments in developing countries.

Leave for Change is offered through Unitera, a joint initiative of World University Service of Canada (WUSC) and the Centre for International Studies and Co-operation. Unitera mobilizes people and organizations in Canada and the developing world to reduce poverty by achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals.

Under the Leave for Change program, Canadian volunteers are assigned overseas for two to three weeks. This allows a limited number of qualified employees from partici-

pating organizations to transform their holidays into short international assignments with well-defined tasks and the support of development professionals in the host country, says Martha Harley, assistant vice-president (human resources).

"They contribute their knowledge, technical skills and know-how to an international development project where Unitera volunteers are usually involved," she says. "Through contributions made by the University, employees selected by Unitera for the program receive pre-departure training, insurance coverage, vaccinations, airfare, lodging and daily stipends."

President Alastair Summerlee, chair of WUSC's board of directors, says Leave for Change is a win-win program for everyone. It reaches

*Continued on page 10*





**GOURMET MARKET**

**Remember Us This Spring Season  
For Plump, Juicy Farm Fresh**

## TURKEYS

**Dress Up Your Special Easter Dinner With  
Our Famous Storemade Stuffing and  
Savory White Wine Gravy**

*Please call early to place your order. Telephone orders are welcome.*

## GUELPH POULTRY MARKET

Kortright just off the Hanlon  
570 Kortright Plaza

**519-763-2284**

Mon.-Wed. 9-7  
Thurs.-Fri. 9-8  
Sat. 9-6  
Sun. Closed



**Michael H.C. McMurray**  
Partner



210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com

- RRSP and Investment Accounts and Deposits
- RRSP Loans at Prime +0
- Michael can answer your questions and help you explore your options
- Call today for a free consultation

## Guelph's Laminate and Hardwood Flooring Headquarters

**Come in and see our  
large in-stock selection of  
laminate and hardwood flooring**



**55 Dawson Road, Guelph  
519-821-5744**



(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
**DOWNTOWN GUELPH**  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

**519 836-3810**

[www.guelphmontessori.com](http://www.guelphmontessori.com)

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts
  - Swimming
  - Musikgarten
  - Skating
  - Yoga
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers



*"Within the Child Lies  
the Fate of the Future"*  
Dr. Maria Montessori

# Relay for Life Runs March 29

*Fourth-year biomedical sciences students co-chair 2008 event*

BY TERESA PITMAN

**"L**IFE'S TOO SHORT to be complacent." For Kara Schneider and Sarah Couch, both fourth-year students in biomedical sciences, not being complacent means finding an active way to support causes important to them — in particular, the annual Relay for Life event that raises money for cancer research and the Canadian Cancer Society. Both students have been involved since the first Relay for Life at U of G four years ago and are co-chairs of the 2008 event.

Schneider and Couch have chosen to support cancer research for two reasons: the significance of the disease and the real possibility of hope as research progresses.

"When you look at the statistics on cancer, the incidence rates are sad," says Schneider. "But when you look at all the gains in recent years, it's very encouraging. The research is finding cures, and people are surviving cancer."

Of course, research can't occur without funding, and Relay for Life makes an important contribution to supporting that work.

"Last year, we raised enough money to fund a research lab for a year," says Couch. "This year, our

goal is to raise more than \$100,000. We think we can do it, too."

The two women, with a team of about 45 volunteers, began planning this year's event right after the completion of the 2007 relay, which raised a record \$83,570. It will all come together March 29 at 7 p.m. in Alumni Stadium.

Teams of 10 people will participate, with team members each taking turns walking the track until 7 a.m. the next morning. Games, music and activities will help keep everyone awake and entertained.

To participate, each team member must raise \$100, so each team of 10 will contribute at least \$1,000 to the cause. Don't have a team but want to join in? You can ask to be matched up with a group. Can't do the fundraising but would like to help in other ways? Consider becoming a volunteer for the evening, serving food, providing security or organizing activities.

Schneider says the money raised will stay in the Guelph area, helping the Canadian Cancer Society's local groups support cancer patients and funding research into new and more effective treatments.

She adds that the relay is also a way to recognize those who have been directly touched by cancer.

"We open the evening with a survivors' lap. And later we do a tribute to those who have died of cancer with luminaries set up around the track." These moments are some of the most emotional aspects of the event, she says.

Couch notes that U of G was the first university in Canada to organize a Relay for Life fundraiser, although something similar had been done in high schools. And although other universities have now followed Guelph's lead, U of G still raises the most each year, she says.

Earlier this year, Couch and Schneider were invited to a conference by the Canadian Cancer Society to share some of their strategies and ideas with other universities hoping to catch up to Guelph.

Of course, other campuses can't duplicate what Schneider believes is a key factor — U of G students.

"I do think our success says something about the University's people. We have a reputation for social consciousness and for having students who care about these issues. And Relay for Life is an easy way to get involved and make a contribution because it's just one night, yet has a huge impact."

For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~relay](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~relay).

## College Royal a Year-Long Job

*'I love being a part of this tradition,' says president of 2008 event*

**E**VEN BEFORE SHE STARTED classes at Guelph, Christina Crowley was planning to sign up for College Royal.

"It's a funny story how I got involved," says the third-year agricultural business student. "I had been chosen Ambassador of the Fair in my hometown of Hastings and was competing against all the other ambassadors at the Canadian National Exhibition for the title of Ambassador of the Fairs. One of the other competitors was the president of College Royal that year, and we became friends. She told me to be sure to show up at the first College Royal meeting when I came to Guelph." (Crowley, by the way, won the ambassador competition, and her new friend placed second.)

Crowley showed up at that meeting, and she's been showing up ever since. After working as media relations director in her first year, she was honorary chair last year and was elected president last April.

Although she hadn't experienced College Royal before enrolling at U of G, she quickly became a huge fan.



**Christina Crowley**

"This is the largest student-run open house in Canada, and 2008 is our 84th year. We'll have 20,000 to 30,000 people taking part."

As president, Crowley has been working with advisers from the University and a large number of student volunteers to plan and oversee all the activities. Organizing College Royal is a year-long job, and she's had to tuck this responsibility in around her class schedule, her summer job and her other extracurricular activities, which include serving

on her OAC class executive and being treasurer of the University Judging Club. Working with so many student volunteers is a very rewarding experience, but it can have its challenges, she says.

"The officers and I meet every week, and this semester the only time we could schedule meetings was 6:30 a.m., so that goes to show how truly dedicated and committed my officers are to this amazing organization. We have plenty of Tim Hortons coffee to keep us motivated, and no one complains."

Crowley says being involved with College Royal, which runs until March 16, has been a gratifying experience.

"The event has such a rich history — I love being a part of this tradition. You get to work with some amazing people and make great friends. I consider my colleagues the cream of the crop of student volunteers. When it's all done, you step back and see what you've accomplished. It's a great feeling!"

For more information, visit [www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca](http://www.collegeroyal.uoguelph.ca).

at GUELPH

**Editor** Barbara Chance  
b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Design** Peter Enneson

**Production** Linda Graham  
l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Advertising** Scott Anderson  
theandersondifference@rogers.com

**Director** Chuck Cunningham  
c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca

At Guelph is published every two weeks  
by Communications and Public Affairs,  
Level 4, University Centre, University of  
Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.

Inquiries: 519-824-4120

Editorial: Ext. 56580

Distribution: Ext. 56581

Advertising: Ext. 56580

[www.uoguelph.ca/adguide](http://www.uoguelph.ca/adguide)

Classified: Ext. 56581

Fax: 519-824-7962

Website: [www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph](http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph)

Articles may be reprinted  
with credit to At Guelph.

**Subscriptions**

\$25 (includes GST);  
\$30 outside Canada  
ISSN 08364478



**UNIVERSITY, CUPE 1334 REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT**  
U of G and CUPE 1334, the union that represents about 260 trades, custodial and maintenance workers on campus, have reached a tentative agreement in mediation. It now requires ratification by both parties. Watch the U of G home page for updates and information.

**AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE**  
March 20 is the deadline to submit nominations for the William Winegard Exemplary Volunteer Involvement Awards. Nomination packages are available at [www.volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca](http://www.volunteerguelphwellington.on.ca).

**HTM STUDENTS SUPPORT MASAI FOR AFRICA CAMPAIGN**  
Hospitality and tourism management students raised more than \$3,300 for the Masai for Africa Campaign at a charity auction in January. Funds will go towards covering the cost of clinical consultations and adherence training for patients at the Tsepong AIDS Clinic in Lesotho, Africa.

**BETTER 'U' PROGRAM GETS UP AND RUNNING**  
Occupational Health Services is again offering "The Better 'U'" program, featuring noon-hour stretching, leisure walking, power walking, running and a learn-to-run program Mondays and Wednesdays beginning April 7. The meeting place is the Powell Building. Sign-up date is March 25 in Room 168 of the Axelrod Building. For more information and to register, call Ext. 56811 or send e-mail to [aaleveld@uoguelph.ca](mailto:aaleveld@uoguelph.ca).

## IN MEMORIAM

### MARGARET BECKMAN

Former chief librarian Margaret Beckman died Feb. 28 at age 83. She joined the U of G Library in 1966 and was appointed chief librarian in 1971, becoming the only woman heading up a university library in Ontario at the time. In 1984, she was named director of information technology, a position she held until retiring in 1988. She is survived by her children, Christopher, Susan and David, and six grandchildren.

### JOSEPH HERSEY

Joe Hersey, retired manager of laundry and linen services, died March 1 at age 92. He worked at the University for 42 years, retiring in 1980, and the Hersey Building was named in his honour. He is survived by a daughter, Sharon. A tree will be planted in his memory in the Wall-Custance Memorial Forest in September.

### MARY RAE

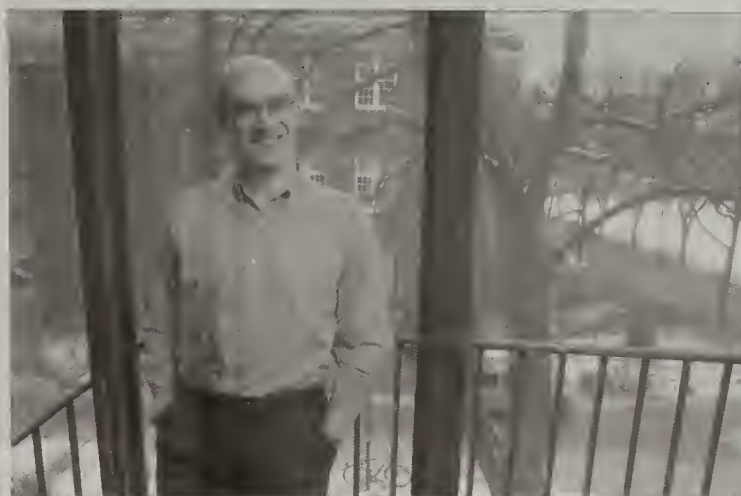
Mary Rae, a retired staff member in the Ontario Veterinary College, died March 2 at age 95. She was employed at U of G from 1949 to 1977.

### MARIANNE SZUCS

Marianne Szucs, a staff member in Student Housing Services, died suddenly Feb. 23. She is survived by her husband, Tibor, two brothers, a sister and six nieces and nephews.

# CME Prof Walks the Road From Concept to Consumer

Research considers how to move university discoveries into marketplace



Coming from a financial background, Prof. Fred Pries says a university invention must be cost-effective to make it into the marketplace.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

BY REBECCA KENDALL

**I**N THE WORLD OF TECHNOLOGY, it's a long road from concept to consumer, says Prof. Fred Pries, Business. "Great ideas are being discovered at universities every day," he says, "but getting a good idea into use in the outside world isn't easy."

Pries joined U of G last May after a lengthy career as a chartered accountant. After 20 years of balancing the books, including nearly a decade as a partner with KPMG, one of the world's top accounting firms, the three-time University of Waterloo graduate is now investing his energy in better understanding how university-derived technologies move from the lab into the marketplace.

When a technology is in the development stage, a number of steps need to be taken, says Pries. These include securing stable funding, creating prototypes, addressing reliability and safety issues, and finding viable ways to integrate the technology into products people want to buy.

"The invention has to work reliably day after day," he says. "It also has to be cost-effective. In the lab, it's enough to make it work under ideal conditions to prove the concept, but in widespread application, it must work reliably and safely and under a

variety of conditions."

In addition, once the technology is proven, products must then be developed and marketing strategies put into play, says Pries. This requires a lot of time and resources for the commercialization of the technology to be successful. As a result, researchers have important decisions to make when it comes to how to take their inventions to the next level, he says.

Because of the time, expertise and money needed to take technologies to the next level, researchers must decide what's best for them, he adds.

Some researchers find that renting or licensing their technology for use by other companies, through what are referred to as markets for technology, is in their best interest, says Pries. Others may opt to sell their invention outright and allow another party to be responsible for product and business development. And still others may decide to create their own startup company to develop, produce and sell products themselves.

Whatever the decision, each approach has benefits and downsides, he says. In technology markets, for example, there are risks involved in sharing information about unpatented technologies with potential

buyers, who may learn about the technology and then copy rather than buy it. In addition, there is often significant uncertainty surrounding the potential of new technologies and the products they spawn in the marketplace, he says.

In 2005, Pries and Paul Guild, a management sciences professor at the University of Waterloo, began a study of 57 public startup companies that were founded on technologies developed through university research projects. Their goal was to better understand the different approaches these firms took to commercialize their technology and the impact these choices had on the business activities these firms undertook.

The study, which was published in *R&D Management* in September, found that markets for technology represent a viable approach to commercialization.

The researchers also learned that these markets for technology have received little consideration in research on commercializing university technology. In addition, they discovered significant differences in the operations of startups that are founded in markets for technology versus those that begin as markets for products.

## SAFE Week Raises Awareness

**F**OUR THOUSAND PINWHEELS, 200 free T-shirts and self-defence training are what U of G's Sexual Assault Free Environment (SAFE) team has planned to raise awareness about sexual assault locally and across the globe.

During this year's annual SAFE Week running until March 14, the team is promoting awareness of the femicide that's occurring in the Congo, as well as the work that Panzi Hospital and the City of Joy are doing to provide medical relief and

safety for victims.

The SAFE team, which operates out of the University's Wellness Centre, is handing out 200 free T-shirts displaying the messages "Sexual Assault Is a Global Issue" and "Ask Me About the Congo." Volunteers are also collecting donations and pledge signatures to show support for the cause. Donations can be made at the Wellness Centre on the second floor of the Powell Building.

In an effort to create awareness of

local sexual assault issues, the team will place 4,000 pinwheels around the cannon March 12 and 13 to visually represent the number of students on campus who will be affected by sexual assault in their lives.

In partnership with the University's rape aggression defence course, a self-defence class runs March 12 from 7 to 10 p.m. in the Eccles Centre. The cost for students is \$5.

For more information, call the Wellness Centre at Ext. 53327.

## people

### KUDOS FOR HTM PROF

Prof. Steve Lynch, interim director of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management, has been named the 2008 winner of the Ontario Hospitality Institute's Gold Award in the educator category. The award recognizes his outstanding contributions to the hospitality, food-service and tourism industry, particularly in the area of training and education. He will receive the award April 17 in Toronto.

### ENGINEERING STUDENTS WIN NATIONAL DESIGN CONTEST

A team of U of G engineering students has won a first-ever national competition for up-and-coming inventors sponsored by the James Dyson Foundation. Their creation was a single-handed bicycle braking lever that was inspired by a nine-year-old girl with a disabled hand. The students — Andrew Morris, Anina Sakaguchi, Micha Wallace and Katie Bell — won \$5,000 and are automatically entered into an international competition for the James Dyson Design Award. The project was supervised by Prof. John Runciman.

### STUDENT LEADER RECOGNIZED FOR INTRAMURAL WORK

U of G student Simran Singh, an intramural assistant co-ordinator in the Department of Athletics, has been named this year's recipient of the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association's Post-Secondary Student Leadership Award. The award recognizes outstanding student leaders who go above and beyond to promote campus recreation and intramurals at post-secondary institutions. This is the third consecutive year a U of G student has received the award.

### COACH, RUNNER HONOURED

Dave Scott-Thomas, head coach of U of G's men's and women's track-and-field and cross-country programs, has received the 2007 Ontario Coaching Excellence Award in the high-performance category from the Coaches Association of Ontario. Gryphon Lindsay Carson was named a Canadian Interuniversity Sport Track Rookie of the Year.

### OAC POSTERS SWEEP PRIZES

At the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention last month at Brock University, three U of G graduate students took first, second and third prizes in the poster competition. Stela Balint of the Department of Plant Agriculture captured first place for her poster titled "Biological Control Agents Contans and Rootshield Contribute to the Mortality of Sclerotia of *Sclerotium cepivorum*, the Causal Agent of Onion White Rot." Second place went to Angela Gradish of the Department of Environmental Biology for "The Sublethal Effect of Pesticides Used in Greenhouse Vegetable Production on *Bombus impatiens* Cresson." Third-place winner was Kelsey O'Reilly of the Department of Land Resource Science for a poster on "Cover Crops Before Sweet Corn: Does This Mean Less Nitrogen?"



# Physicist Has Big Ideas on a Small Scale

Newly arrived prof studies how materials, living things are made from the bottom up

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**"T**HEY HAVE TO COME to a compromise. They can't be apart, and they don't want to live together." No, Prof. Robert Wickham, Physics, isn't talking about squabbling siblings or warring nations. Think of battles on a small — really small — scale.

The newly arrived faculty member studies push-and-pull interactions between parts of molecules — especially block co-polymers — that may be used to design faster computers and other electronic devices, medicines or other applications calling for structure design and control on an ultra-tiny scale. Those studies plunge him into the field of nanostructures, or things that are measured in billionths of metres.

Divide a human hair into 80,000 parts: one of those parts spans a nanometre. To borrow a line from the organizers of Guelph's new nanoscience degree program — due to begin in the fall — it's "the science of the almost impossibly small."

For Wickham, "polymer" could mean either a synthetic substance made in a chemist's lab or a cell filament found under a biologist's microscope. In either case, he's interested in how complex structures assemble from aggregates of long chain-like molecules under the influence of those push-and-pull interactions.

Chemical repulsion between parts of a molecule might push those pieces apart. But they're constrained by bigger forces holding the entire molecule together. How the molecule comes to some kind of détente in these civil disputes is important to



Physics professor Robert Wickham says it's the bridge between physical and biological sciences that attracted him to Guelph.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

understand, he says.

(In your kitchen, the same principle allows dish soap to work. Soap's water-loving and water-repelling parts enable it to trap grease and debris, making your dishes easier to clean.)

Knowing which structures form under specific conditions is crucial for a chemist designing new products or a biologist trying to understand how an organism works. For instance, nanotech engineers may better predict material behaviour

and design materials with desired, or even unexpected, properties. At that small size, material properties change in unexpected and potentially useful ways that may point to new applications on our workaday scale.

Computer makers running up against physical limits in designing ever-tinier microcircuits may find new ways to lay down components on chips. Engineers making optical devices such as photosensors need to harness different optical properties in substances within a structure that selectively allows through certain wavelengths of light while blocking others.

Wickham's studies may help other researchers learn more about biofilms produced by bacteria or about self-assembly of materials such as lipid bilayers. These structures make up cell membranes not just in bacteria but in all organisms and are critical for passage of molecules in and out of cells and their components. Why and how have they formed the way they have?

"Evolution has found the best structure for a given purpose," says Wickham. "By understanding how structure influences functionality, we can see why nature would produce them. But such structures have to be physically possible, and it's interesting to know what limits physics puts on biology."

It's that bridge between physical and biological sciences that attracted him to Guelph. He's interested in helping other scientists learn to build new materials from molecules up.

"We can make materials to order and manipulate them at the nanoscale. Give me a molecule, and I try

to predict what sort of structure will assemble out of an aggregate of such molecules."

Referring to the pending nanoscience degree program, Wickham says: "Guelph is definitely going to be an exciting place to teach and to do research. I'm looking forward to it."

He expects to help teach in that program, probably in computational nanoscience. Having arrived at Guelph in January, he is already teaching a third-year course in quantum mechanics.

He'd been on faculty at St. Francis Xavier University for more than four years but wanted to spend more time on research with graduate students. Citing work by his colleague Prof. John Dutcher and other scientists in the Guelph-based Advanced Foods and Materials Network, he adds: "I knew about Guelph's strengths in soft-matter physics."

During his own graduate degrees at the University of Chicago, Wickham studied liquid crystalline phases of matter. He did a post-doc in Florida learning about superconductivity before joining McMaster for another post-doc in soft materials. That's where he began investigating block co-polymers.

His "lab" is the computer monitor, where he builds and studies theoretical models of these materials. He plans to plug into Guelph's existing SHARCNET (Shared Hierarchical Academic Research Computing Network) facilities, gaining access to a supercomputing network that provides fast, powerful computing for researchers at U of G and other institutions. He also plans to apply for funding to develop his own computing cluster.

The polymer physicist did his undergraduate degree at the University of Toronto. He grew up in Toronto, where he'd been attracted to science and math as a high school student.

It's the basic connections among theory, prediction and experiment that sustain his interest in research. "Every day I see the scientific method in action. There's a nice interplay between theory and experiment."

He's also intrigued by the sometimes surprising results of interactions in that nanoworld. "You don't know how these interactions among many molecules will play out on a large scale to produce a supra-molecular structure. These are challenging problems to deal with."

New to Guelph, he is now exploring the macro-world of the campus and city. He may lace up his skates for some intramural hockey soon. Offence or defence? "I'm pretty bad at both, so it doesn't matter."



## The minimum wage is going up.

If you're an employer, here's what you need to know.

	General Minimum Wage	Students under 18 and working not more than 28 hours per week or during a school holiday	Liquor Server	Hunting & Fishing Guides: for less than five consecutive hours in a day	Hunting & Fishing Guides: for five or more hours in a day whether or not the hours are consecutive	Homeworkers (people doing paid work in their home for an employer)
Current wage rate	\$8.00/hour	\$7.50/hour	\$6.95/hour	\$40.00	\$80.00	110% of the minimum wage
Mar. 31, 2008 wage rate	\$8.75/hour	\$8.20/hour	\$7.60/hour	\$43.75	\$87.50	110% of the minimum wage

On March 31, 2008, the general minimum wage will increase to \$8.75 per hour from the current rate of \$8.00 per hour.

To find out more about how the new minimum wage guidelines affect employers and employees, call or visit the Ministry of Labour web site.

Paid for by the Government of Ontario

1-800-531-5551 [www.ontario.ca/minimumwage](http://www.ontario.ca/minimumwage)

For information about paid advertising in  
At Guelph, call  
Scott Anderson  
at 519-827-9169.



# Building on the Past

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**T**HE FEELING MIGHT COME anywhere: the dairy barn, Massey Hall, Alumni House, Johnston Green. Without warning, something about the surroundings can trigger a visceral flashback to those few preteen years Wilfred Ferwerda spent growing up on campus in the late 1960s.

Meet the 48-year-old today, and he might be heading to a meeting or a work site as a project manager with Physical Resources. But, as those "feelings" attest, part of him is still that kid, zipping around the still-fledgling University of Guelph campus with his childhood buddies on his bicycle — the red and white Western with the "cool fenders."

Ferwerda, an engineer who spent a couple of decades working on building restoration projects around southern Ontario before returning to U of G to join Physical Resources five years ago, was named a project manager in December. Prior to that, he was a senior construction co-ordinator.

Under a new design engineering and construction team, he is now one of four full-time project managers who, along with other staff members, look after individual building projects around campus. He and his colleagues stick-handle projects from start to finish, working with building occupants, contractors and consultants.



Wilfred Ferwerda's work with Physical Resources often evokes preteen memories of growing up on the U of G campus. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Those projects might involve anything from a new roof for Creelman Hall to external repairs to the Ontario Veterinary College to restoration of Macdonald Institute. Mention "restoration" especially, and Ferwerda's ears perk up. He often brings his interest and background in older buildings to specific projects around campus, such as the recent refurbishment of the entrance of the Macdonald Institute building.

He's about halfway through a professional distance learning program with the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada. A history buff, he is also a member of the International Committee on Monuments and Sites, where he belongs to a group that writes guidelines for the restoration of heritage buildings.

For Ferwerda, "heritage" involves living traditions, so it may mean modern, too. Last year, he

co-wrote a chapter on U of G's concrete buildings for a book called *Concrete Toronto* (see "In Praise of Concrete," *At Guelph*, Feb. 13). That assignment meant looking at a handful of buildings erected on campus during the late 1960s, including the McLaughlin Library, the MacKinnon Building and the MacNaughton Building.

When they went up, Ferwerda was a youngster living on campus.

His dad, Ted, was an agricultural assistant in the dairy barn west of Gordon Street. The family — including Wilfred's mom, Bernice, and his three siblings — lived in a wooden frame house at 3 College Lane. It was one of three houses at the entrance to today's Arboretum, where the U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre now stands.

Ferwerda lived there from age six to 11. For him and his siblings, as for other employees' kids, the campus was their playground.

Recalling the building boom, he says: "The campus was basically a construction site." All those dirt mounds meant he was "mountain biking" on that red and white Western before the term had even been invented.

The campus playmates rode routinely through fields that, a few years later, would become the Arboretum. They piled into the new elevator of the MacKinnon Building for a goggle-eyed view from its upper floor. And they would regularly get kicked out of the Athletics Centre after sneaking in the back door to swim in the pool.

Ferwerda's family moved off campus after Ted began working at the Elora Research Station. Wilfred's career later led him to Michigan and Toronto, where he worked on restoration projects with Ventin Group Architects, before he moved back to Guelph in 1988.

## Bad News Is Hard to Deliver

*Veterinary surgeon says clients appreciate straight talk about cancer options for their ailing pets*

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**I**T'S NEVER EASY TO TELL CLIENTS that their dog or cat has cancer. But Prof. Sarah Boston, Clinical Studies, says she can still offer hope to pet owners. For this recently arrived surgical oncologist and Guelph graduate, the key lies in straight talk about the bad but also the good.

Whether it's a broken leg or bone cancer, clients are upset when they arrive at the Ontario Veterinary College Teaching Hospital.

"Clients are really, really committed to their pets," says Boston, who returned to Guelph after stints in universities and private practice in Colorado, New Zealand and Calgary. "Their animal is an important family member to them. I enjoy helping those people."

But cancer often strikes more deeply than other diseases or ailments. That means the veterinarian or surgeon needs to tread even more carefully to find the line between realism and empathy.

Having been a vet for about 11 years now, Boston says she's "pretty blunt with people. It's: 'Your dog will die of cancer in 12 to 16 months.' It makes people cry to say your dog is going to die, but it has to be said."

But what's equally important is what happens after she delivers that



OVC surgical oncologist Sarah Boston says she "can't imagine doing anything else." PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

prognosis. Cancer may leave an animal with only months to live, but for an 11-year-old dog, living for another 16 months means 10 per cent of its life.

For Boston, it's often a case of redefining success. "Six months of life

after surgery might be a quality outcome."

How to improve the quality of that remaining life? "Communication is always important in veterinary medicine, and it becomes pretty critical in these cases," says Boston,

who confesses to having shed tears of her own over a Guelph client's dog that died just before she went to Colorado State University for a post-doc in surgical oncology.

Recalling her time there — Colorado State is the world's largest treatment centre for cancer in animals — she says a key lesson was recognizing that grieving pet owners sometimes view their dog or cat as a last link to a deceased spouse or other family member.

"You're dealing with the dog's illness, but you may also be dealing with other things you don't even realize."

Back at Guelph, she hopes to help build on work in client communications already established at the OVC Teaching Hospital.

Although Boston handles general cases during her two-week rotations, she spends about half of her time on cancer cases in dogs and cats. As in people, cancer in animals comes in all forms and sizes. "You don't have two tumours exactly the same."

She will be part of the new Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation, a cross-campus research network run by Prof. Brenda Coomber, Biomedical Sciences, and Prof. Paul Woods, Clinical Studies. That initiative will include an expanded animal cancer care centre within the teaching hospital.

On the research side, Boston has applied for Pet Trust funding to study bone cancer in dogs. She hopes to refine techniques for detecting cancer in animals and for finding alternatives to amputation for certain dog breeds.

She completed a residency in surgical oncology here shortly before heading to Colorado. She has taught and practised in New Zealand and worked in private practice in Calgary.

Originally from Canmore, Alta., she studied at the University of Saskatchewan before coming to Guelph for an internship in 1997.

Boston has kept — and lost — her own share of pets over the years. Just last year, she had to put down her 18-year-old cat. And it was here in Guelph four years ago that Tsotsi, her nine-year-old golden retriever cross, was struck and killed by a car.

Today she lives in Guelph with her husband — Steve Lee, a large-animal veterinarian who began a contract appointment this year with the Department of Population Medicine — and Molly, their 11-year-old black retriever cross.

Her passion for animals developed when she began volunteering at veterinary clinics around age eight. "I never strayed from that," she says. "I can't imagine doing anything else."



# Researchers Study Use of Plant Wastes for Fuel

Physicist, chemist, microbiologist team up in search for 'holy grail' of agriculture

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**R**ISING DEMAND for alternative fuels has spurred North American farmers to grow ever more fields of corn for making ethanol. They're harvesting those golden kernels for fuel use, but what about the waste biomass in the plants' stems and leaves?

Now three Guelph scientists — a microbiologist, a chemist and a physicist — have teamed up for a three-year study of an idea designed to turn plant parts, including not just corn cobs but also straw, switchgrass and even wood chips, into usable biofuels.

Fears of pending energy shortages and worries about climate-changing emissions from the burning of fossil fuels are driving producers to consider green energy

sources, says assistant vice-president (academic) Anthony Clarke, a faculty member in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology. Hence corn crops grown for fuel ethanol, he says, and Washington's recently stated goal of deriving one-quarter of the United States' energy needs from ethanol by 2025.

To meet those needs, producers could grow yet more corn. But Clarke and his faculty collaborators — physicist John Dutcher and chemist Jacek Lipkowski — think they can help improve the process by using a novel and largely untapped ethanol source: all that material in the green parts of the plant.

They're combining expertise and tools here on campus, from genetically engineered microbial enzymes to nanoscale microscopy, to crack a

particularly tough nut: plant cellulose. By learning how nature breaks down cellulose in biomass and improving on that process, they hope to help the biofuels industry make a product that's greener for the pocketbook and for the environment.

"We're trying to help with the efficiency of the process," says Clarke. Referring to the tools used by his partners to probe that process down to its molecular roots, he says: "If we can see this better, we can study the efficiency better."

Densely packed cellulose fibres lend plants their toughness, allowing a tree to grow hundreds of feet high without falling over. So intractable is the stuff that it proves indigestible to most plant-eaters on the planet. The only reason that herbivores, including ruminants such as cows, can di-

gest all that plant fodder is that their guts contain specially evolved microbes able to gnaw through cellulose. (The same trick performed by gut microbes allows termites to chew through wood.)

The U of G researchers hope to copy nature to break down that structural cellulose more effectively and unlock biofuels from all that waste biomass. Making ethanol from cellulose has attracted plenty of attention, says Dutcher, pointing to a Washington conference on the topic held last fall. "It's almost the holy grail of agriculture these days."

Learning how nature degrades cellulose means looking closely at the process — really closely. Lipkowski, a Killam Research Fellow and Canada Research Chair in Electrochemistry, uses atomic-force mi-

croscopy to view how enzymes made by bacteria and fungi attach to individual cellulose fibres. Dutcher, a Canada Research Chair in Soft Matter Physics and a theme leader in the Guelph-based Advanced Foods and Materials Network, uses other nanoscience tools to observe how fast and efficiently the enzyme works.

Clarke studies microbes that make cellulose-chewing enzymes. He thinks the secret lies in the mechanism that allows portions of those enzymes to bind to fibres. By using genetic engineering, he hopes to learn more about that process and make the enzymes work even more efficiently.

Currently, he uses bacteria and enzymes from his own lab, but he plans to try out the process with raw materials provided by the trio's industrial partner. They're working with Iogen Corp., an Ottawa-based biotechnology company that makes cellulose ethanol for biofuels and enzymes used in that process and other applications.

Cellulose ethanol is made by treating fibre with enzymes to yield sugars that are then fermented to ethanol for fuel.

The research partnership involves U of G and Iogen, along with Sharon Roscoe, an electrochemist at Acadia University and a longtime research collaborator with Lipkowski.

Other Guelph researchers on the project are graduate students Amanda Quirk, Dan Glickman, Darrell Cockburn and Colin MacDougall and post-doc Oleh Tanchak.

"The team of researchers at Guelph and Acadia are experts in enzyme-surface interactions," says John Tomashek, senior staff scientist with Iogen. "We consider their expertise to be a good fit with our research on the enzymes and our applications to biomass conversion."

Last year, the project received almost \$600,000 in funding, including a three-year \$450,000 strategic grant from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. The researchers also received \$45,000 from the BIOCAP Canada Foundation and a two-year \$50,000 grant from the Alternative Renewable Fuels Research and Development Fund of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.

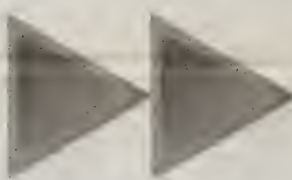
Leafing through a copy of his 1996 book, *Biodegradation of Cellulose*, Clarke points to diagrams showing how chains of glucose molecules bind together to form cellulose. Tweak those bonds and you alter that structural molecule found in corn stalks into a storage molecule such as starch, the easily degraded sugar found in corn kernels.

Ethanol is currently made from corn in the United States and from sugar cane in Latin America. Making cellulose ethanol would offer an alternative to using food crops to produce energy.

It would also offer a lucrative use for waste biomass, not to mention cutting down on burning of fossil fuels.



**STOP**  
IN AT H&R BLOCK



**FAST**  
TAX PREP



**START**  
SPENDING

**Students, come in for your tax preparation and get instant cash back in just one visit.**



**come in today or call**  
**1-800-HRBLOCK (472-5625)**  
**www.hrblock.ca**



**H&R BLOCK®**

To qualify for student pricing, student must present either (1) a 2002a document or more months of full-time attendance at a college or university during 2002 or (2) a valid high school identification card. Expires July 31, 2006. Mini size qualify for Instant Cash Back and Cash Back products. See office for details. Valid only at participating H&R Block locations in Canada. SPC Card offers valid from 02/01/02 to 07/31/06 at participating locations in Canada only. For Cardholder only. Offers may vary; restrictions may apply. Usage may be restricted when used in conjunction with any other offer or retailer loyalty card discounts. Cannot be used towards the purchase of gift cards or certificates.



# Contemporary Sculpture Not Just for Observing, but for Walking Through and Interacting With

Fine art prof and design engineer build new course, showcase student work in Zavitz Gallery

BY REBECCA KENDALL

THE TRADITIONAL NOTION of sculpture often evokes images of an artist creating a three-dimensional object by carving stone or whittling a piece of wood until the material embraces a new form.

Contemporary sculpture, while using some of these tactics, offers artists far more freedom to explore new materials and tools to create their work, says Prof. Christian Giroux, Fine Art and Music, who joined U of G in 2004.

The shelves in his office display many of his mind's creations in miniaturized model form, including *Fullerene*, a large lightweight work of portable art resembling a giant molecular structure that people can step into and become part of. The structure, which is eight feet in diameter, was made using mountain bike tire tread adhered to a series of aluminum extrusions held together with joints.

"I'm interested in making work that people want to interact with," says Giroux.

*Fullerene* was exhibited at the Scope Art Fair in Miami, where he and collaborator Daniel Young shared it with the public in parks, at beaches and on boardwalks.

"Kids would run in it, and adults would step in and walk around with it as it rolled along," says Giroux.

His shelf also holds a collection of space satellites that he and Young created and built with the help of John Phillips, a design engineer in the School of Engineering. One of



Fine art professor Christian Giroux will soon be unveiling what he calls "a play pavilion of sorts" in Scarborough's new Lee Centre Park. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

these pieces was featured last year in *Contemporary* magazine in an article about Diaz Contemporary, the Toronto gallery where the piece was exhibited.

Giroux and Phillips have also collaborated to produce a new sculpture and printmaking course that allows students to create 3-D works of art by producing designs with a software program and uploading them to a 3-D printer, which produces scaled versions of the designs in two to 12 hours.

"This printer is advanced for our

department," says Giroux. "I'm an advocate for more traditional forms of craft, but I also appreciate current technologies. It's empowering for students to learn a technique that enables them to do something new and unique in their work. A lot of contemporary practice is concerned with design and architecture and a constructivist sensibility. You're trying to reflect the world you experience, and a big part of that world is the product of industrial production."

Students are showcasing their

creations at the Zavitz Gallery until March 14.

It's a busy time for Giroux, who will soon be unveiling his own unique creation to a playful audience. Giroux and Young's *Reticulated Gambol* will become a permanent fixture in Scarborough's new Lee Centre Park, an urban green space located in the midst of a condo development.

"It's a play pavilion of sorts," he says, noting that the piece features repeated elements such as corkscrew climbers and tubes surrounding a

six-foot-high deck. "It's both a sculpture and an operative piece of equipment."

The 30- by 30-foot surface resembles a standard playground with one twist. The standard forms have been replicated fourfold into one fluid piece.

"It's a test of convention, and it'll be interesting to see how the children choose to use it," says Giroux. "I'm interested to see how kids will circumvent the system and what the design will do to a classic game of tag."

His own playground experiences were had in Sharbot Lake, a small cottage community north of Kingston. The community of 800 people swelled to some 3,000 each summer with the arrival of cottagers and tourists, says Giroux, whose parents both taught at the local high school.

He left Sharbot Lake to attend the University of Victoria, where he received a BA in 1993. He then travelled clear across the country to earn an MFA at the Nova Scotia College of Art and Design.

Since 1994, Giroux has exhibited nationally and internationally, including shows at Hunter College in New York, AceArt in Winnipeg and the PowerPlant in Toronto. He's also held artist's residencies in Berlin and Paris, the latter sponsored by the Canada Council for the Arts in 2006.

This spring, he and Young will have an exhibition of sculpture and drawing at Diaz Contemporary. The month-long show opens June 5.

## Cereal to Go Wins Business-Pitching Competition

U of G's first Nicol Venture Creation Competition draws time-saving, health-conscious and 'green' product ideas

A SUPER-QUICK and portable cereal served up by a team of three students captured top prize at U of G's first-ever business-pitching competition.

The team "Cereal to Go" was awarded \$6,000 for first place in the Nicol Venture Creation Competition, which was sponsored and hosted by the College of Management and Economics (CME), with prize money provided by the Wesley and Mary Nicol Charitable Foundation.

In front of a panel of high-profile judges, the winning team pitched a breakfast product that uses spray-dried milk so consumers simply have to add water.

Developed by Sally Boeckner, Jamie McLaren and Ben Holland, the unique process maintains the nutritional value of the milk and means that the cereal could be offered as a healthy breakfast choice in vending machines.

"The ideas the students came up with were all innovative and have the potential to become real businesses, which is what we are hoping this competition will encourage," says Prof. David Prescott, CME associate dean (academic). "It was a great experience for the students, and we're grateful to the judges for supporting our young entrepreneurs in this way."



Winners of the Nicol Venture Creation Competition, from left, Ben Holland, Jamie McLaren and Sally Boeckner, hold their prize as John Sleeman, one of the contest judges, looks on. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

A panel of top business leaders — Bill Johnson, former president and CEO of Macdonald's Canada; John Sleeman of Sleeman Brewing; Advantis partner Tom Peters; and John Pollice, district vice-president of TD Canada Trust — grilled the entrepreneurs on their proposals before handing over cash prizes to the top three teams.

Second prize of \$3,000 went to the team "Green World Solutions," made up of Kwasi Danso and Jonathan Wolff, for their idea to distribute biodegradable plastic products such as cutlery, plates and cups to restaurants and cafeterias throughout the Greater Toronto Area. The team also plans to explore producing these products using locally grown potato and corn crops and having them locally manufactured.

An idea for gluten-free beer grabbed third place and \$1,000. The "Gordon Mills Gluten-Free" team made up of Stephanie Hecimovich and Daniela Lopez proposed to produce and distribute a beer that contains no barley or malt.

The winning teams from Guelph will move on to the Nicol LaunchPad \$50K, where they will compete April 4 against the top three teams from 10 other Ontario universities as well as Conestoga College for cash and in-kind prizes totalling \$50,000.



# She's Found an Inspiration

Compiling biography of Ken Hammond boosts history student's environmental awareness

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**H**ISTORY STUDENT Jacqueline McIsaac never thought conducting research for a biography on the late Ken Hammond would awaken the eco-friendly side of her, but it did.

Perhaps it's proof that Hammond, even after his death last spring, is still having an impact when it comes to how we think about environmental issues.

"This research project has made me think more about the environment and to look at environmental issues differently," says McIsaac, who will present her research March 22 at this year's Hammond Lectures (see accompanying story). "It's also made me recognize the history behind many of the environment-related programs on campus. Guelph prides itself on being environmentally concerned and aware, and you can't help but connect that to Hammond and what he fought for while he was alive."

A former member of Board of Governors, Hammond was heavily involved in the Arboretum, helped develop a course focused on environmental issues, contributed to scholarships and played a huge role in establishing the Guelph Institute for the Environment, says Prof. Joe Ackerman, associate dean of the Faculty of Environmental Sciences, who came up with the idea to compile a

biography.

"I thought it would be appropriate to recognize all that he's contributed to the University of Guelph and the Guelph community," says Ackerman. "He was a strong advocate of making people aware of environmental issues, and he prodded people to consider the importance of environmental policy, which eventually led to the development of the Guelph Institute for the Environment here on campus."

McIsaac began researching the life of Hammond in January and has since interviewed a number of his family members, friends and colleagues.

"I've been talking with his family

and friends and getting photos so I can get a personal perspective on what he was like," she says.

She's also dug up plenty of information from his colleagues on his many involvements at U of G and locally.

She discovered that Hammond's effectiveness in spreading environmental awareness stemmed from the fact that he was always targeting politicians and other decision-makers.

"He knew the importance of environmental policy when it comes to creating awareness. It seems like he was someone who set goals and then took action."

One of his most influential accomplishments at the University was

his involvement in developing "The 5,000 Days" course, which focuses on key environmental issues, says McIsaac.

"It was one of the most popular courses for a long time, and through this single course he managed to reach hundreds of students each year."

She says she was surprised to find how many people were eager to share what they knew about Hammond and to help her collect information. She's even had requests for copies of the paper once it's complete.

"It's nice to see so many people who want this man's legacy to be captured and remembered."

## Renowned Ecologist to Speak

**"C**LIMATE ATMOSPHERE and Health" is the theme of this year's Kenneth Hammond Lectures on Environment, Energy and Resources running March 21 and 22.

Hosted by the Faculty of Environmental Sciences (FES), the two-day event begins with a keynote speech by Thomas Lovejoy March 21 at 7 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. The title of his free public talk is "Climate Change: Prospects of Nature."

Known for coining the term "bi-

ological diversity," Lovejoy is president of the H. John Heinz III Center for Science, Economics and Environment and former biodiversity adviser to the World Bank.

"Thomas Lovejoy is an internationally recognized ecologist and conservation expert with expertise on the effect of climate change on biodiversity," says Prof. Joe Ackerman, associate dean of FES. "He has a global perspective that fits in perfectly with the lecture series' current focus on environments and

health."

On March 22, a free symposium featuring four speakers and a panel discussion begins at 9:30 a.m. in the Trophy Room of the Cutten Club. The daylong event is open to the public, but space is limited, so people are asked to register by sending e-mail to [hls.uoguelph.ca](mailto:hls.uoguelph.ca).

For more information about this year's Hammond Lectures, visit the website [www.envsci.uoguelph.ca/news/hammond-lecture/climate-atmosphere.cfm](http://www.envsci.uoguelph.ca/news/hammond-lecture/climate-atmosphere.cfm).

## Summerlee Steps Off Campus for United Way

**A**S 2008 CAMPAIGN CHAIR for the Guelph and Wellington United Way, president Alastair Summerlee spoke to local business people March 5 at the Delta Guelph Hotel. He reminded them that they and their employees deserve credit for supporting the community through their annual United Way fundraising drives.



According to campaign director Lori Arsenaault, almost \$2.6 million was raised last year, with 65 per cent of those donations coming from employees at some 300 workplace campaigns, 24 per cent from corporations and the remainder from individual donors.

U of G is Guelph's biggest employer and also holds the largest United Way drive, contributing \$424,124 in 2007.

Summerlee also introduced the business crowd to United Way executive director Ken Dardano of Elora, who succeeds retiring Morris Twist, and members of the agency's campaign cabinet.

**The next issue of *At Guelph* will appear March 26.  
The deadline to submit copy is March 18.**

*Guelph Chamber Choir*

**Guelph Chamber Choir**

GERALD NEUFELD  
conductor

and

**Musica Viva Orchestra**



Haydn

*The Creation*

**MARCH 29, 2008**

**8 PM**

**River Run Centre, Guelph**

River Run Centre

**BRIDGE TALK**

Prof. Thomas King

6:45 7:30 pm

*Composed in 1798 at the height of Haydn's creative genius, this epic work recounts the Biblical creation story followed by love duets of Adam and Eve based on Milton's Paradise Lost.*

**TICKETS:**

\$30 adult • \$10 student • \$5 [eyeGO.org](http://eyeGO.org)

Order by phone 519-763-3000 or toll-free 1-877-520-2408 or on-line at [www.riverrun.ca](http://www.riverrun.ca)



# Understanding the Lay of the Land

Geographer studies processes operating in the natural landscape, such as peatland degradation and catchment runoff

BY TERESA PITMAN

**"S**o, DO YOU just sit around and memorize capital cities all day?" Tell people you're a geography professor, and you'll get some odd questions — like this one asked of Prof. John Lindsay.

That may have been what geography was all about back in lower grades, but Lindsay's work in physical geography and geographic information science today relies on technology and intensive spatial analysis. No capital cities involved. His interest in the subject, though, did start in a down-to-earth way: when Lindsay was a young child, his parents drove the family from Ontario to British Columbia.

"When you're five years old and you leave the low hills of northern Ontario and you drive through the Prairies, where it's so flat, and then you hit the mountains, you can't help but be amazed," he says.

He still retains that appreciation of the beauty of the world around him, but Lindsay spends much of his time trying to understand the processes operating in the natural landscape, such as peatland degradation and the role that topographic depression plays in controlling catchment runoff.

"Physical geography is concerned with processes that shape the land — things like the runoff of water and climate change," he says. "My research looks at how we use digital elevation models, which are like really fancy topographic maps, to better understand these processes."



Prof. John Lindsay traces his interest in geography to a cross-country trip as a child. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

For example, let's say a flood is predicted in a certain area. With a digital elevation model, you can predict how water will flow over the land. Alternatively, you might want to define which areas are exposed to wind and therefore may be more vulnerable to atmospheric deposition of various pollutants, or to predict how a forest fire might spread.

"Digital elevation models and the techniques for analysing these data are widely applied in environmental research, and my work focuses on assessing and improving the reliability of these tools," says Lindsay, a PhD

graduate of the University of Western Ontario.

Despite having no formal training in computer programming, he wrote software that is now used by thousands of people at more than 160 universities, 40 government agencies and 30 research institutes worldwide to more effectively analyze the information in digital elevation models.

Before joining U of G this year, he spent 3½ years at the University of Manchester, where he and British colleagues investigated landscape degradation in Peak District Na-

tional Park in northwest England. This park, nationally significant for recreational, economic, ecological and historical reasons, contains one of the United Kingdom's southernmost upland bogs.

"In some places, the peat is more than two metres deep and has been accumulating there for hundreds of years, but now the peat is eroding very quickly," says Lindsay. "Because the upper layers of peat are heavily polluted, as they erode there's a risk of contaminating downstream reservoirs, which supply drinking water to a large population."

In England, Lindsay lived close to Peak District National Park and frequently visited it, both for his research and simply to enjoy the walking trails and open countryside. Here at Guelph, he is continuing his analysis of the peatland degradation and related issues in the park and will return to Manchester this summer to set up more modelling projects.

He's also interested in studying ephemeral streams — the little streams that, as he says, "aren't always there." When there's been plenty of rain, these streams fill up and can be fast-flowing, but in dry weather, they disappear.

"For a long time, these were regarded as unimportant, but in fact ephemeral streams account for more than 50 per cent of many stream networks. They're an important link from hillslope areas to larger streams and rivers."

Lindsay stresses the significant role that ephemeral streams play in the hydrological system and the need to be aware of the implications of any land-use changes in these areas for the overall health of the downstream environment.

He hopes to explore how streams expand and contract in response to variations in rainfall and catchment moisture conditions, a phenomenon that is still poorly understood.

Not surprisingly, his love of the natural landscape extends into his leisure time. He enjoys biking and hiking with his wife and three-year-old son, as well as cross-country skiing when he has time.

## Toxic Sensor Draws Interest From U.S.

PhD candidate to present paper in Washington before Department of Homeland Security

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**A** U OF G STUDENT has been invited to discuss her new sensor for detecting a food-borne toxin — and potential terrorism threat — before the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) this month.

Azadeh Namvar, a PhD candidate in the Department of Food Science, is one of only three students chosen from about 500 candidates working in eight national centres of excellence set up by the DHS after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

She will present her work March 19 during the second annual DHS University Network Summit to be held in Washington, D.C. Billed as "The Best and the Brightest," her

panel is intended to show off promising student projects to Homeland Security officials and representatives of American universities, government and industry.

"That's a major achievement," says her supervisor, Prof. Keith Warriner.

Namvar will talk about her new sensor for detecting patulin, a toxic chemical made by fungi during spoiling of fruit, especially apples. Over time, the substance can collect in the body and cause chronic or acute illness.

In 2005, she and Warriner received a five-year grant worth \$70,000 a year from the National Centre for Food Protection and Defense (NCFPD). That network is one of eight national research groups

funded by DHS to study topics such as terrorism, emergency preparedness, chemical and biological threats, and food security.

NCFPD members study the vulnerability of the food system to biological or chemical attack. Guelph is the only Canadian team member. Other U of G collaborators on NCFPD projects are food science professors Loong-Tak Lim and Mansel Griffiths and research associate Lioubov Brovko.

Namvar's biosensor uses synthetic antibodies called molecular imprinted polymers that detect patulin in amounts as small as 20 parts per billion. Detecting one part per billion is like finding a drop in an Olympic-sized swimming pool.

"Patulin is considered a bioter-

rorism agent because it's easy to produce in large quantities," says Warriner. "It's also found naturally on contaminated fruit, so it represents an ongoing food-safety issue."

Besides national security officials, food-safety regulators testing samples on a farm or in a juice-bottling plant would probably welcome a tool to provide a quick, reliable reading. Currently, sampling for patulin involves complicated tests that are expensive and take more than a week.

A probe based on Namvar's work might take only seconds to detect the poison, says Warriner. "It's a bit like a pregnancy test."

He cautions, however, that it may take years or even decades for such a test to reach the market.

Namvar also works with Edward

Lai, a chemist at Carleton University, and Ting Zhou, a researcher at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Guelph.

This research was also funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

OPTOMETRISTS  
**GOEMANS & ASSOCIATES**

**Dr. Donna Goemans  
Dr. Paul Goemans  
Dr. Doris Hrvatin  
Dr. Tiffany Tang**  
Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED**

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,  
Laser Surgery Consultation  
570 Kortright Rd. W., Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**  
Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible

Pianos, books,  
lessons & more! **519.836.8492**

218-A Victoria Rd. S.  
Guelph, Ont.  
N1E 5R1  
fax: 519.836.9474  
www.theoctavemc.com



**CONSUMER TRAVEL CENTRE**

Your local travel agency.

We guarantee you the best personalized services  
And most economical prices.  
We're just a phone call away.

519-824-6001 / 1-800-795-4995 / E-mail: ctravel@mgl.ca  
www.consumertravelcenter.ca  
255 Speedvale Ave. W., Guelph, ON N1H 1C5





**HUMBER**

School of Applied Technology



In just two semesters at Humber, you could upgrade your degree with a postgraduate certificate in

**Wireless Telecommunications,  
Supply Chain Management  
or Project Management.**

# Make technology work for you.

Apply now and be well on your way to a successful career in technology.

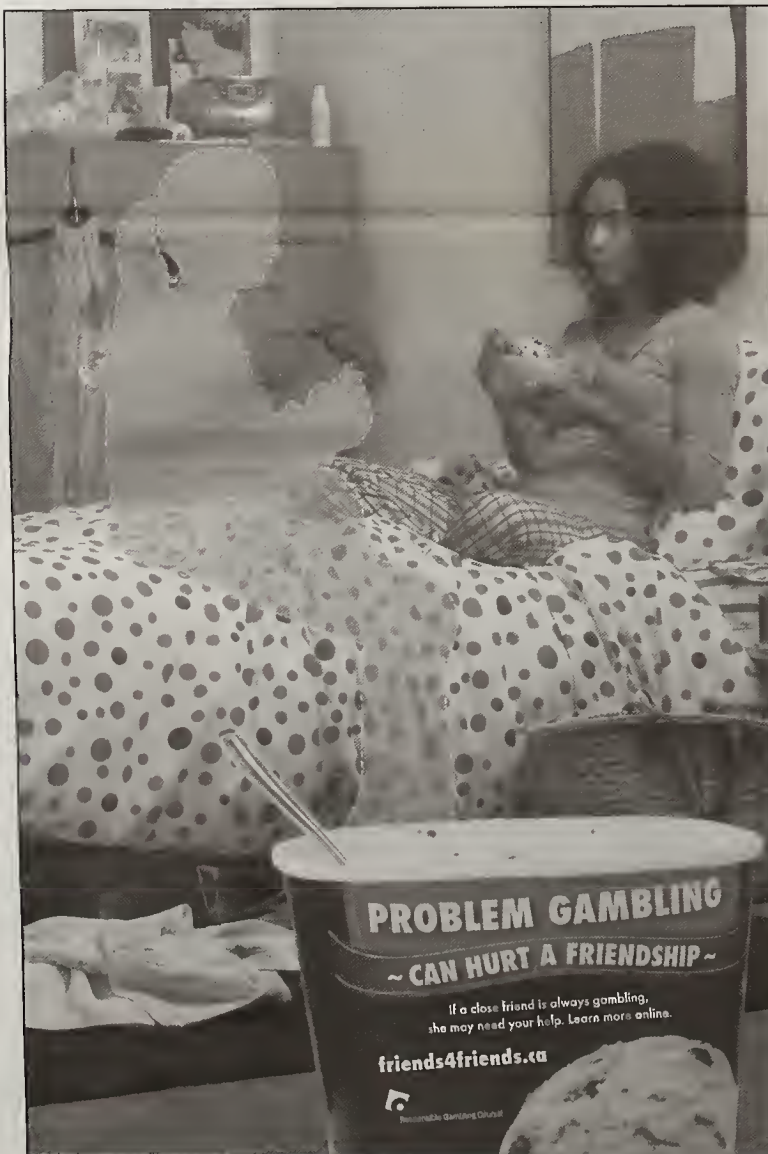
[humber.ca/makework](http://humber.ca/makework)



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by March 14 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to [r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the Feb. 27 photo was taken at the back of Day Hall: Curtis McCoy, Sandra Campbell, Angi Gallepe, Liz Cherry, Maurice Nelisher, John Van Manen, Matt Edwards, Bill Clair, Danny Martin and Ray Hutchison.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL



## Co-op Focus of Week

*Continued from page 1*

"She brought forward new program ideas, designed information packages and created a facilitators' resource guide that is currently used by staff for community referral."

Also to be honoured at the banquet is Mitchell Gillespie, a B.Sc. student in computing and information science, who will receive the Collin Cureatz Memorial Award for Student Involvement. The award recognizes his dedication to helping volunteer organizations. On his own, he raised money to travel to Vietnam to do an unpaid co-op work term with World University Service of Canada.

Prof. Deb Stacey, chair of the Department of Computing and Information Science, notes that Gillespie has "worked tirelessly to get other co-op students to consider taking up

his job in Vietnam and continuing his work."

U of G's Co-operative Education and Career Services also has a number of awareness and educational programs planned for National Co-operative Education Week, including an information display in the University Centre courtyard March 17 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

A "Venture Abroad" workshop designed to help co-op students learn how to search and apply for international positions is slated for March 19 from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in Room 105 of Rozanski Hall. The week wraps up March 20 with a workshop on networking at noon in UC 390.

Students are required to sign up for the workshops at [www.uoguelph.ca/studentaffairs/reg](http://www.uoguelph.ca/studentaffairs/reg).

## Info Session Planned

*Continued from page 1*

employers such as U of G who want to foster global citizenship in their staff. It also gives people of all ages working in various occupations opportunities to make a difference.

"Leave for Change enables people to share their skills internationally and, on their return, share their learning at their workplace," he says.

Human Resources will soon be sending out information about Leave for Change and inviting applications for a limited number of overseas opportunities that reflect Uniterria's current needs, says Harley.

In addition, a public information session about the program is

planned for March 20 from noon to 1:15 p.m. in Room 103 of the University Centre.

Uniterria will screen all applications for suitable matches with posted vacancies, interview short-listed candidates and choose participants. Employees selected must attend a week-long orientation session in Montreal before leaving for their volunteer assignment in the 2008 summer semester.

When they return to Guelph, they will be asked to share their experiences with others.

For more information about Leave for Change, call Human Resources at Ext. 53374.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

HP Deskjet printer D4260, colour and black and white; SanDisk micro cruiser 1 GB UBS drive, D-link wireless router, 54 mbps, everything new, never opened, Katie, 519-669-2557 or hickeyk@uoguelph.ca.

Thirteen-inch TV, DVD, PC with 17-inch monitor, sandwich maker, coffee maker, kitchen items, tables, chairs, vacuum, assorted books, everything almost new, 519-515-0355.

White entertainment centre; green plaid futon; chestnut UGG boots, size nine, still in box, 519-837-0316.

Four Blizzak snow tires on rims, 215/70R15, five-bolt, barely used, Ext. 52864 or 519-824-9247.

## FOR RENT

Three-bedroom house in south end, three baths, open-concept family room, gourmet kitchen, deck overlooking conservation area, on bus route, ideal for visiting faculty, available Aug. 1 to mid-December, Melody, Ext. 54923, 519-836-6264 or m.wren@uoguelph.ca.

Partially furnished two-bedroom second-floor apartment with balcony in older semi, close to Exhibi-

tion Park, bus stops and downtown, parking, laundry, storage, suitable for quiet single or couple, non-smokers, no pets, available now, \$975 a month, Wilfred, Ext. 54023 or wilfred@pr.uoguelph.ca.

Furnished two-bedroom house, walking distance to campus and downtown, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, parking and all amenities, available for short-term rental from April to August 2008, \$1,250 a month inclusive, photos available, mmaiden@uoguelph.ca.

Basement sublet in townhouse, private bath, laundry, parking, cooking facilities, furnished common room, wireless Internet, available May 1 to Aug. 30, \$399 a month inclusive, 519-265-2112.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fnmoll@rogers.com.

## AVAILABLE

Housecleaning, competitive rates, excellent references, 519-821-8804.

Fiddle/mandolin and acoustic guitar lessons at your location, more than 30 years of musical experience,

Matthew, 519-822-0013 or mjglass1@hotmail.com.

Experienced teacher offering guitar lessons for children and adults, beginners welcome, Chris, 519-822-6132.


Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 519-836-8086 or cedmerris@uoguelph.ca.

## WANTED

Subjects needed for study on benefits of exercise in overweight children aged six to 14, Kevin, 647-290-3689 or kyan@uoguelph.ca, or Karen, 519-546-9340 or hodgson@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca.

**George's**  
Windows and Doors



George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 831-7800  
Fax (519) 831-7810

For information about  
paid advertising in *At Guelph*,  
contact Scott Anderson at  
519-827-9169 or  
theandersondifference@rogers.com.



## Campus Hardware Limited

1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag



**ClickSIGNS**  
Visit us at the University Centre

519 824-4120  
Ext. 58031

## Banner Stands

Order new or we can print new graphics  
for your existing banner stand



Banner-Up Retractable

Large Format Printing By  
**Roland**

www.clicksigns.ca

## D & D GRANITEWORX INC.

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #4  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
graniteworx@bellnet.ca

## On-Campus PARKING NOTICE

On Thursday, March 13, and Friday, March 14,  
P14 and 15 (adjacent to the Child-Care and  
Learning Centre and Alumni House)  
will be reserved for *Campus Days* visitors only.

Please plan to use alternate parking lots P13  
(near Maritime Hall), P18 (near East Residence)  
and P19 (near Lambton Hall).

Your co-operation is greatly appreciated as  
the University of Guelph welcomes  
prospective students and their families  
to *Campus Days*, one of our most important  
on-campus recruitment events of the year.

## MONTESSORI

SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON  
established 1996



- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR  
SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**

(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
www.montessori-school.ca

## YOUR PREFERRED

## Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM

Call today for a no-obligation quote

Toll Free  
1-800-482-0822

Local  
519-836-5700

Or visit our website at  
www.staebler.com



Save Up To 50%  
In Insurance Product Discounts  
*plus*  
Your Group Discount!



Visit us at www.economicalinsurance.com



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

The Theatre in the Trees dinner-theatre production of *The Love List* by Norm Foster continues weekends until April 26. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

Ann Stallman leads a workshop on Pilates and gardening April 5 or 10 from 10 a.m. to noon. Cost is \$30. Registration and payment are due March 21. Call Ext. 52358.

## CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues March 13 with soprano Marion Samuel-Stevens performing vocal works of Ronald Beckett, accompanied by the composer, and March 20 with Kathryn Ladano, Tilly Kooyman and Stephen Fox presenting original works for assorted clarinets. March 27 is student soloists' day. Concerts start at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107.

## FILM

The film series sponsored by the Spanish studies program in the School of Languages and Literatures continues March 18 with *Temporada de patos* and March 26 with *Tesis* and *Abre los ojos* at 5:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 312.

Docurama, a film series sponsored by the U of G Library and the Central Student Association, presents *All in This Tea* March 19 and *Chances of the World Changing* March 26. The free screenings begin at 7 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

## LECTURES

The School of Languages and Literatures presents Marjorie Ratcliffe of the University of Western Ontario discussing "We Came Alone: Los Niños de la Guerra" March 14 at 1:30 p.m. in Rozanski 107.

The Department of Physics hosts the Winegard Lectureship in Soft Matter Physics March 18 at 4 p.m. in OVC 1714. Richard Jones of the University of Sheffield in England will speak on "Soft Machines: Nanotechnology and Life."

The School of Languages and Literatures presents Angolan author Ondjaki discussing "Hispanic and Lusophone Literatures: The African Dimension" March 19 at 3:30 p.m.

in MacKinnon 235. A reception will follow.

The School of English and Theatre Studies and the women's studies program present a public talk by Ann Cvetkovich, an author and professor of English and women's and gender studies at the University of Texas at Austin, March 19 at 4 p.m. in MacKinnon 120. She will discuss "Depression: A Public Feelings Project."

## NOTICES

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic and the Learning Commons are again offering ExamSMART, a program that helps students enhance exam performance through anxiety management and effective study strategies. Starting March 25, it runs for four sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 7 p.m. in McLaughlin Library 384. Cost is \$20. Register at the Learning Commons desk. The clinic is also offering a practical skills-oriented session on how to curb worry March 13 from 7 to 9 p.m. in UC 335. For more information, call Ext. 52662 or visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers).

The sidewalk between the Axelrod Building and the Hagen Aquilab connecting Gordon Street and Christie Lane will be closed until May 9 for the duration of the Axelrod greenhouse demolition project.

U of G students who have developed toys as part of a second-year infant development course taught by Prof. Susan Chuang, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, will unveil their products March 26 from 12:30 to 1:20 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall.

The Guelph Contemporary Dance Festival will stage a free performance March 26 at noon in the University Centre courtyard.

The Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare is calling for abstracts for its inaugural Animal Welfare Research Symposium, to be held April 28 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. The symposium will feature short research talks and poster presentations covering a range of topics related to animal welfare, animal ethics and the role of animals in society. Abstract submissions are due March 14 at 5 p.m. and should be sent to Kim Sheppard at [ksheppar](mailto:ksheppar)

@uoguelph.ca. For more details, contact Sheppard or Prof. Georgia Mason at [gmason@uoguelph.ca](mailto:gmason@uoguelph.ca).

## SEMINARS

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's distinguished speaker series features Dan Dumont of the Centre for Proteomic Studies at Sunnybrook Research Institute discussing "Building Vessels With Vasculotide, an Angiotensin Peptidomimetic" March 12 at 2 p.m. in Thornbrough 1507.

The Department of Pathobiology and the Centre for Public Health and Zoonoses present Nick Ogden of the Public Health Agency of Canada's Centre for Foodborne, Environmental and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases March 14 at 11 a.m. in Pathobiology 2106. His topic is "Ticks, Tick-Borne Zoonoses and Climate Change."

"The ARC1 E3 Ubiquitin Ligase and Its Role in the Rejection of Incompatible Brassica Pollen" is the focus of Daphne Goring of the University of Toronto March 17 in the seminar series hosted by the plant biology group in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology. On March 24, Elizabeth Weretlynyk of McMaster University considers "Prospecting for Stress-Tolerance Genes in the Yukon." The seminars begin at 3:30 p.m. in science complex 2315.

The Centre for Scottish Studies presents Eric Zuelow of West Liberty College discussing "Watch Out! The Watch Groups and Scottish Identity in the Late 20th Century" March 25 at 10 a.m. in MacKinnon 2020. On March 27, Cynthia Neville of Dalhousie University explores "The Development of 'Trust in Writing' in Medieval Scotland, 1100 to 1300" at 1 p.m. in MacKinnon 132.

Next up in the Department of Physics seminar series March 25 is Tarek Saab of the University of Florida, Gainesville, presenting "Hot on the Tail of the Elusive WIMP: Direct Detection Dark Matter Searches Enter the 21st Century" at 4 p.m. in science complex 1511.

## SYMPOSIUM

Arth ATTACK! 2008, an undergraduate student symposium sponsored by the Central Student Association, the College of Arts Student Union, the School of Fine Art and Music,

the College of Arts, the Student Life Enhancement Fund and the Graduate Students' Association, is March 14 at 3:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 120. Keynote speaker Cristina Martinez will discuss "Art? When Copies Become Originals" at 5:35 p.m.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services is now accepting applications for its sixth annual Course re/Design Institute. The intensive four-day program runs May 13 to 16, offering faculty and instructional staff an opportunity to work with educational developers and technical staff to create specific learning materials, course components or even entire courses. Enrolment is limited. For more details or to apply, visit [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). If you have questions, call Mary Wilson at Ext. 56856.

For instructors who run online Blackboard courses, TSS offers a workshop on "Setting Up and Submitting Final Grades Using Grade Book" March 26. Register at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

The professional development series for teaching assistants continues March 19 with "Personal Balance: Managing Your Time as a Teaching Assistant." Visit [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca) to register.

## THEATRE

Curtain Call Productions presents *Zombie Prom: The Musical* March 13 to 15 at 8 p.m. and March 15 at 2 p.m. at War Memorial Hall. Tickets are \$10 and available at the Central Student Association office or at the door.

Fourth-year drama student John Battye presents *The Drawer Boy* by Michael Healey March 18, 19 and 20 at 8 p.m. in Lower Massey Theatre. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

The School of English and Theatre Studies presents *The Bacchae* by Euripides March 24 to 29 at 8 p.m. in the George Luscombe Theatre. The production is directed by Prof. Alan Filewod and designed by Prof. Pat Flood. Tickets are \$8 and \$10 and available at Ext. 53147 or at the door.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Xu Han, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is March 20 at

1 p.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "How Life History Shapes Sexual Size Dimorphism in Anurans: A Comparative Analysis." The adviser is Prof. Jinzhong Fu.

The final examination of PhD candidate Shannon Hebblethwaite, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, is March 28 at 9 a.m. in Macdonald Stewart 331. The thesis is "The Family That Plays Together Stays Together? Understanding the Experience of Intergenerational Family Leisure." The advisers are Profs. Joseph Tindale and Joan Norris.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis hosts its annual fundraising dinner and auction March 29 at 5 p.m. at Guelph Place. The evening will include live and silent auctions, draws, a buffet and entertainment. For tickets, information or to donate items, call 519-836-1110.

The Guelph Food Bank's spring food drive runs March 12 to 30. The goal is to collect 80,000 pounds of non-perishable canned and dry packaged goods. Donations can be dropped off at 100 Crimea St. For more information, call 519-767-1380.

Guelph Environmental Leadership is running a pilot project called the GiG (Green Impact Guelph), which aims to help Guelph become one of Canada's leaders in household conservation. You can get involved by completing a short online survey and by attending a workshop and conservation fair March 29. Visit [www.GuelphGiG.ca](http://www.GuelphGiG.ca) for details.

The Wellington branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets March 25 at 7:30 p.m. at 122 Harris St. Jerry Prager will discuss "Legends of the Morgetti: A Clan of Families From the Calabrian Village of San Giorgio Morgeto."

The annual National Service Dogs Easter egg hunt for dogs is March 21 at 11 a.m. at Riverside Park by the carousel. Registration begins at 10 a.m. and is \$20 per family. Collect pledges and you'll have a chance at winning a grand prize. For registration and pledge forms, visit [www.nsd.on.ca](http://www.nsd.on.ca) or call 519-623-4188.

The Royal City Ambassadors present "A Wink and a Smile" April 4 and 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 519-763-3000 or visit [www.riverrun.ca](http://www.riverrun.ca).

• Renovating

• Allergies

**Fresh Start**

• Moving

• New Baby

**CARPET & FURNITURE CLEANING**  
Nobody Cleans Better Than Steamatic

**STEAMATIC**  
total cleaning & restoration  
Trusted Since 1968

**AIR DUCT CLEANING**  
Breathe cleaner air  
Call Us 519-836-7340



Valerie Pantton





## Masking Reality

This image of CBC *NewsWorld* anchor Carla Robinson is one of a number of portraits of First Nations professionals taken by U of G fine art professor Arthur Renwick for a series of large-scale photos called "Mask." "I asked them to think about the history of the relationship between the camera lens and the Indian and to make a facial gesture in response," he says. See story on page 7. PHOTO BY ARTHUR RENWICK

## OAC Grad Is New Dean

*Nova Scotia research dean begins five-year term at Ontario Agricultural College Aug. 1*

**R**OBERT GORDON, a professor and dean of research at the Nova Scotia Agricultural College (NSAC), has been named dean of the Ontario Agricultural College. His five-year term begins Aug. 1.

"Robert is known for his passion for agriculture, his enthusiasm for teaching and learning, and his dedication to public service," says Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), who chaired the search committee. "He will bring energy and vibrancy to OAC, as well as a background as a researcher in environmental education and resource management. He has a vision for OAC that builds from the college's strong foundation of innovation and excellence, and we are delighted he is joining us."

A graduate of OAC, Gordon has been at NSAC for nine years, serving as a dean, department head and professor, as well as heading the environmental management section of



Robert Gordon

the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture. He also previously served as the provincial climatologist for Nova Scotia. As dean, he has managed multi-faceted research and outreach programs in addition to administering technology transfer and outreach programs and creating new industry research chairs.

A leading authority on climate-related issues in Canada, Gordon holds the Canada Research Chair in Agricultural Resource Management, which focuses on identifying adaptive resource management issues at the farm level. He is also an adjunct professor of plant and soil science at the University of Vermont and Dalhousie University, a member of the graduate faculty at U of G and an honorary research associate at the University of New Brunswick.

"I am truly looking forward to returning to the University of Guelph and the Ontario Agricultural College," he says. "I have always recognized the important and evolving role that OAC plays in providing innovative educational programs, outreach services and research in globally supporting our environment, agriculture, food and rural communities. I am eager to work with my many new colleagues."

*Continued on page 10*

## Physicist Receives Steacie Memorial Fellowship

*CPES prof earns one of Canada's premier science and engineering prizes for studies of forces in atoms and across the universe*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**P**ROF. CARL SVENSSON, Physics, has received a 2007 E.W.R. Steacie Memorial Fellowship, considered one of Canada's premier science and engineering prizes.

Svensson is one of six Canadian scientists to receive the honour this year from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC). Awarded since 1964, the Steacie is the most prestigious award given by the federal agency to outstanding young scientists whose research has earned them an international reputation.

Svensson is the third faculty member to earn a Steacie fellowship while at U of G.

"It is a great honour for the entire University to have Carl recognized with this prize," says president Alastair Summerlee. "It is demonstrative both of the incredible quality of the faculty here at Guelph and of Carl's remarkable research achievements, which are literally helping unlock the mysteries of the universe."

The fellowships are named for physical chemist and former NSERC president Edgar William Richard Steacie, who believed promising

young scientists should be given every opportunity to develop their ideas. Nominations are received from universities across Canada and are judged by a panel of independent experts. Recipients of Steacie fellowships are relieved of their teaching and administrative duties for two years to concentrate on research.

"This is a tremendous honour," says Svensson, who is known internationally in the field of subatomic physics, both for his experimental work and for his leadership in designing and building the tools needed to probe the inner workings of atoms. "The focus afforded by the Steacie fellowship will enable my group to move rapidly into new research directions."

He is searching for new forces of nature that break the symmetry of the current laws of physics: their effects do not depend on the direction of time.

"When we look out into the universe, we see a lot of matter but almost no anti-matter," he says. "That imbalance could have resulted only if there is an additional force, or forces, in nature that has not yet been identified in experiments on Earth. We are searching for small effects of these forces in the laboratory,



Prof. Carl Svensson is one of six Canadian scientists to receive the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council's most prestigious award for outstanding young scientists. PHOTO BY ROSS DAVIDSON-PILOD

with big consequences for understanding the origin of matter in the universe."

Svensson's quest led to his playing a lead role in the design and construction of TIGRESS (TRIUMF-ISAC gamma-ray escape suppressed spectrometer). Housed at TRIUMF (the Tri-University Meson Facility, Canada's national laboratory for nu-

clear and particle physics research in Vancouver), TIGRESS is the most advanced detector of its kind. It is effectively a giant microscope that allows scientists to study the nucleus of an atom.

Svensson says the instrument will help scientists learn how stars form the basic elements that make up all matter in the universe. About 70 scientists from 17 institutions in Canada, the United States and Europe are involved in the project.

Originally from Deep River, he earned his B.Sc. and PhD degrees from McMaster University in 1995 and 1998. After graduation, he worked for the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory in California as an NSERC post-doctoral researcher. During his two years there, he made important contributions to understanding collective motions and the occurrence of extreme deformations in light nuclei.

Svensson was also the recipient of a prestigious John Charles Polanyi Prize in 2002. Named for the University of Toronto professor who won the 1986 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, the award recognizes early but significant and innovative work in physics, chemistry, physiology or medicine, literature and economics.



**clickSIGNS** 519 824-4120 Ext. 58031  
Visit us at the University Centre

**Banner Stands**  
Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand

Portable and Affordable

Large Format Printing By Roland

Banner-Up Retractable [www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)

**EYE EXAMS NOW ARRANGED**

- Eye Doctor Prescriptions Filled
- Two Opticians with over 57 Years Combined Experience
- Senior's Discount Available
- Family has served Guelph and Wellington County since 1940

**Scott Coburn Optical**  
"A Name You Can Trust in Eyewear"

Mon-Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Fri. 9:30 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.  
**Telephone 519-821-2020**

123 WYNDHAM ST. N. Opposite the old Post Office

**Acorn Financial Services**

210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com

Michael H.C. McMurray  
Partner

- RRSP and Investment Accounts and Deposits
- RRSP Loans at Prime +0
- Michael can answer your questions and help you explore your options
- Call today for a free consultation

**Guelph's Laminate and Hardwood Flooring Headquarters**

Come in and see our large in-stock selection of laminate and hardwood flooring

**RONA CASHWAY**

55 Dawson Road, Guelph  
519-821-5744

**GUELPH MONTESSORI**

(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
DOWNTOWN GUELPH  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

519 **836-3810**  
[www.guelphmontessori.com](http://www.guelphmontessori.com)

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
- Martial Arts • Skating
- Swimming • Yoga
- Musikgarten
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers

"Within the Child Lies the Fate of the Future"  
Dr. Maria Montessori

# New Guelph-Humber Degree to Focus on Fitness, Health

Set to begin this fall, program will answer upcoming needs of society

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**S**KYROCKETING RATES of obesity, diabetes and heart disease have prompted U of G and Humber College to develop a new degree that teaches students interested in becoming personal fitness and nutrition instructors how to prescribe exercise and diet to an unhealthy population.

To be offered for the first time this fall, the program is in response to a growing demand for professionals to know more about preventing and moderating obesity-related diseases when conducting physical assessments and developing exercise and nutrition plans for clients.

"Obesity is an epidemic in our population, and it increases the risk of developing a number of chronic diseases," says Elaine Popp, acting program head at the University of Guelph-Humber. "Because the general population is not fit and not able to make good nutrition decisions, our students need to know how to prescribe lifestyle changes to people who aren't healthy."

Response to the four-year program has been overwhelming, with more than 430 students applying for just 60 spots, says Popp.

Besides knowing how to set up a fitness plan, graduates of this program will have a scientific understanding of obesity-related diseases and be able to tailor fitness and nutrition programs based on a client's health status, she says.

For example, students in the program will learn how different heart medications influence heart rates, how exercise affects insulin and blood-sugar levels in someone with diabetes, and how certain exercises can alleviate symptoms of some cardiac diseases.

They'll also learn the benefits of incorporating whole-grain foods and fibre into the diet to reduce cholesterol levels and gain an understanding of the benefits of omega-3 fatty acids and the dangers of saturated fatty acids.

"Traditional programs normally stress fitness or nutrition, but our obese society is evidence that the two aspects of lifestyle are intimately related," says Prof. Terry Graham, chair of the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, who helped design the program. "Activity and nutrition influence each other with regard to health benefits, and studies have shown that these aspects of lifestyle are more ef-

fective in preventing and moderating diabetes than the best drugs."

The program also addresses our aging population, as well as people with other special needs such as pregnancy, arthritis and osteoporosis, says Popp.

After four years, students will earn a bachelor of applied science in kinesiology from the University of Guelph and a diploma in fitness and health promotion from Humber. They'll be qualified to work as personal trainers, kinesiologists, wellness consultants and fitness practitioners in both clinical and rehabilitation settings.

Delivery of the program courses will be split between faculty at Guelph and Humber. U of G faculty will teach anatomy, biomechanics, nutrition and exercise physiology; Humber faculty will deliver courses in health promotion, exercise prescription and fitness assessment, and will provide hands-on experience through co-op field placements.

"The courses to be offered speak to the current and growing demand in the health-care industry and to Canadians' lifestyle issues," says Graham. "It's a program that answers the upcoming needs of society."

# Residence Association Names Guelph School of the Year

Three students recognized for contributions to residence life, government

**U**OF G RECEIVED the School of the Year Award at the Ontario Residence Hall Association (ORHA) annual conference held earlier this month.

The provincial award recognizes a school that has confronted and overcome residence issues while providing avenues of community building in residences and demonstrating school spirit.

Guelph's Interhall Council was honoured for networking and collaborating with on-campus partners, including the Department of Athletics, the Centre for New Students and the Wellness Centre, in promoting health and wellness and school spirit among new students in residence. The council was also recognized with the provincial award for promoting safety in residences and encouraging students in residence to be proud of where they live.

Three individual U of G students

were also honoured at the conference. Sarah Pink, Interhall's vice-president of activities, received the Student of the Year Award, which recognizes outstanding and diverse contributions to school and residences. Pink was cited for her commitment to ensuring that her experience and knowledge are passed on to new members through training initiatives, as well as for offering to be a mediator and supporter in conflict situations.

Gabi Sundar Singh received the First-Year Experience Award for her

work as social co-ordinator with Lennox-Addington Hall Council. She was honoured for balancing the demands of school and council with the transition from high school to university.

Josh Sinka, Interhall's vice-president of communications, was named the Ontario Communications Co-ordinator of the Year for demonstrating exceptional participation throughout the year and ensuring consistent communication between the ORHA and the University.

## Correction

**I**N THE MARCH 12 ISSUE of *At Guelph*, the outline for the photo taken at the sod-turning for OVC's new large-animal isolation unit incorrectly identified the representative from the Ontario Minis-

try of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) as deputy minister Bruce Archibald. It was, in fact, Dr. Tom Baker, director of OMAFRA's animal health and welfare branch.

**Editor** Barbara Chance  
b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Design** Peter Enneson

**Production** Linda Graham  
lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca

**Advertising** Scott Anderson  
theaderson@uoguelph.ca

**Director** Chuck Cunningham  
c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca

At Guelph is published every two weeks by Communications and Public Affairs, Level 4, University Centre, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.

Inquiries: 519-824-4120  
Editorial: Ext. 56580  
Distribution: Ext. 56581  
Advertising: Ext. 56580  
[www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph](http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph)  
Classifieds: Ext. 56581  
Fax: 519-824-7962  
Website: [www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph](http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph)

Articles may be reprinted with credit to *At Guelph*.

**Subscriptions**  
\$25 (includes GST);  
\$30 outside Canada  
ISSN 08364478



#### APPOINTMENT EXTENDED

Prof. Rich Moccia, Animal and Poultry Science, has agreed to continue in his role as interim associate vice-president (agri-food and partnerships research) until July 2009.

#### LANE VETERE NAMED RYERSON VICE-PROVOST

Heather Lane Vetera, executive director of Student Housing Services, has accepted the position of vice-provost, students, at Ryerson University. Her appointment begins June 1.

#### FACULTY, UNIVERSITY REACH TENTATIVE AGREEMENT

U of G and the University of Guelph Faculty Association, the union that represents 838 faculty members, librarians and veterinarians, reached a tentative agreement in mediation March 13. It now requires ratification by both parties. Meanwhile, members of CUPE 1334 have ratified the agreement they reached with the University March 8.

#### LAST LECTURE APRIL 3

The seventh annual Last Lecture for graduating students runs April 3 at 6 p.m. in War Memorial Hall. This year's speakers include Jeff Lozon, a 1976 BA graduate of Guelph who is CEO of St. Michael's Hospital and chair of the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer. The student lecturer is Holly Shrumm, a BA student in anthropology and zoology. The faculty lecturer is Prof. Maurice Nelischer, director of the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development.

#### PITNEY BOWES DONATES SOFTWARE SOLUTION

Pitney Bowes MapInfo, the leading global provider of location intelligence, is donating its TargetPro software solution to U of G for use in the library. TargetPro will enable students to perform in-depth demographic, statistical and mapping analysis for research, marketing and business development projects.

#### MONUMENT TO BE UNVEILED

A short ceremony will be held to mark the unveiling of a monument in memory of philosophy professor Jay Newman, who died last June, April 6 at 11 a.m. in the Beth Isaiah section of Woodlawn Cemetery.

#### ELECTRICAL SHUTDOWN SET

U of G will stage its yearly electrical shutdown April 26 from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. This year's shutdown will be confined to Mills Hall, War Memorial Hall, the Athletics Centre, Alumni House, the Gryphon Centre, the Gryphon Dome, the Aviary, the Hagen Aquablab, the Ichthyology Institute, the Child-Care Centre and portable, the University Centre, the Powell Building, East Residences (including softball and rugby fields), East Village Town Hall, the field hockey facilities, the pump house and the Arboretum information booth. Access to these areas will be restricted. For more information, contact Douglas Doel in Physical Resources at Ext. 53459 or douglas@pr.uoguelph.ca.

# Chemistry in the Blood

Award-winning student recalls grandfather's early research on nuclear energy



Chemistry lab co-ordinator Julie De Merchant, left, says third-year student Robin Durham should be proud to be the granddaughter of one of Canada's pioneers in nuclear energy. Ray Durham was a radiochemist at the Chalk River nuclear lab in the 1950s and 1960s.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**N**OT ONLY DID FAMILY TIES connect Robin Durham with her late Grandpa Ray, but they also had a chemical bond. The grandfather of the third-year biological chemistry student was chemist Ray Durham, who worked at the Chalk River nuclear labs during the early days of nuclear power and later studied drinking-water contaminants around the Great Lakes.

Call it chemistry in the blood. "My mom says I'm smart like Ray," says Robin, who received an academic award at the Department of Chemistry awards night last month.

While acing science classes during high school in Burlington and Oakville, she had known bits and pieces about her grandfather's science career. Ray had emigrated from England with his wife, Jean, for a post-doc at the National Research Council in Ottawa. He worked on nuclear waste disposal with Atomic Energy of Canada Ltd. (AECL) during the 1950s and 1960s.

He applied for a patent on using glass to dispose of nuclear waste and co-published a paper about the idea in 1958. That was only a year after the Chalk River research reactor had begun running. (A shutdown of that facility last fall threatened the world supply of medical isotopes before operations resumed in December.)

Other countries — notably France and England — dispose of nuclear residues using vitrification, or enclosing the waste in glass. That technology stems from Ray Durham's work, says longtime AECL employee Don Charlesworth.

Canada's nuclear industry and authorities have focused on tempo-

rary waste storage instead of permanent disposal. But Charlesworth says this country may consider alternative ideas, particularly as the nuclear power industry grows.

Just last year, AECL dug up glass blocks at Chalk River that had been buried as a test 50 years ago. "They did perform very well," says Charlesworth, explaining that that experiment drew on his former colleague's studies. "Vitrification is still a technology of interest to us."

Robin Durham mentioned her pedigree last fall to Julie De Merchant, chemistry lab co-ordinator in the science complex. De Merchant hadn't heard of Ray Durham, but she says she was excited to learn of his connections to Canada's early nuclear history.

"He would have been part of the first generation of Canadian nuclear chemists, or radiochemists as they were called then," says De Merchant, a 1997 PhD graduate of Guelph. "Robin's grandfather was a pioneer in his field, and now she's following in his footsteps. I was enthused by that legacy."

She's thinking about creating a poster about Ray Durham and his connection to Robin for a current chemistry "wall of fame" in the science complex.

After leaving the AECL, Ray Durham moved to Burlington and established the radiochemistry department at Environment Canada's National Water Research Institute. His surveys of radioactive materials in and around the Great Lakes during the 1970s and 1980s have been cited by researchers in scientific journals.

Robin found some of those papers last year. Referring to an online reference tool, she says: "We had a

Science Finder assignment in one lab and I 'Science Findered' him."

At home, she has a few of her grandfather's tools — pH paper, a mercury thermometer, a slide rule. She also has a photo of Ray in a chemistry lab and a copy of his description of a nuclear waste disposal technique written for his patent application. She acquired some of those items after her grandfather's death last summer. At his memorial service, a family member explained that Ray had spent part of his life making nuclear power safe.

"You don't really think of your grandparents as having a life before you came along," says Robin. "He must have been pretty well-recognized."

She recalls that she never sought Grandpa's help with her schoolwork. "Once I was doing homework and he said he hadn't done that stuff in a long time."

But their shared chemistry apparently included their sense of humour. "I'd tell him chemistry jokes," says Robin. "He'd laugh, and my parents would look at each other."

Like what? She smiles. "Why did the bear dissolve in water? Because he was polar."

On his bulletin board, her grandfather had hung a cartoon of a parrot in the rain labelled "Polly Unsaturated." "I have that comic on my bulletin board now," she says.

This spring, Robin will visit England, where her older brother is completing an exchange visit from York University. They plan to visit Durham University, where Grandpa Ray completed his chemistry degrees in 1948 and 1950. Referring to a Norman castle that belongs to the university, she says: "We have to take the Durham Castle tour."

## people

#### KUDOS FOR PLAYWRIGHT

Prof. Judith Thompson, English and Theatre Studies, has won the prestigious Susan Smith Blackburn Prize for her political play *Palace of the End*. The two-time Governor General's Literary Award winner is the first Canadian to receive the \$20,000 award, which was recently presented in Texas. Established in 1978, the prize is given annually to a woman who deserves recognition for writing work of outstanding quality for the theatre.

#### TRACK TEAMS ARE TOPS

U of G not only won its first Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) track-and-field title at McGill University this month but also captured top spots in both the men's and women's teams. This is only the sixth time in CIS's 27-year history that one institution has swept both the men's and women's titles in the same season. Individually, Michelle Moody captured gold in the high jump, Lindsay Carson won the 3,000-metre and Steph Jackson came first in the shot put. Gryphon coach Dave Scott-Thomas earned both the men's and women's coach-of-the-year awards.

#### OLA HONOURS KATZ

Bernard Katz, a retired division head in the U of G Library, recently received the Ontario Library Association's (OLA) Les Fowlie Intellectual Freedom Award in recognition of his ethics, integrity and passion in the defence of intellectual freedom over the last two decades as a member of the OLA.

#### ENGINEERING DESIGNS NAMED MOST SOCIALLY CONSCIOUS

Four U of G engineering students won the Social Awareness Award at the Canadian Engineering Competition held this month at the University of Waterloo. Second-year students Kathryn Loog, Krista Read, Laura Robertson and Randi Phinney placed fourth out of the eight teams in their junior category but won the award for having the most socially conscious design in the competition.

#### SCIENCE LIBRARIAN SPEAKS

Academic liaison librarian Peggy Pritchard recently gave an invited lecture to graduate women engineers at the University of California, Berkeley. Her talk, "Mental Toughness: Strategies for Enhancing Resilience," was based on her recently published book, *Success Strategies for Women in Science: A Portable Mentor*.

#### RESEARCH ON THE RADIO

U of G students are taking to Ontario airwaves with news about research. Led by Owen Roberts, director of research communications and an agricultural communications instructor in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development, students are creating weekly features for Wingham-based CKNX radio. The broadcasts air on 920 AM Thursday at 12:10 and 5:10 p.m. and online at [www.am920.ca](http://www.am920.ca). The initiative received funding for technical equipment from the Learning Enhancement Fund.



# JAWS Puts U of G to the Test

Screen-reading device helps evaluate accessibility of University's websites

BY TERESA PITMAN

**P**UT ON THE EARPHONES. You'll hear a clear but quiet voice speaking rapidly enough that you find it hard to keep up: "University of Guelph. Library. Two headings. Eight links...."

You're "reading" a web page the way a visually impaired person might, using a screen-reading device called JAWS (Job Access With Speech). JAWS reads aloud to the listener whatever appears on the computer screen.

The technology, with its ability to quickly outline the structure of a web page and allow the user to navigate via the keyboard, is impressive. Its effectiveness, however, depends on the web page being designed to maximize accessibility.

So how does the U of G website stack up? Good question, and one that didn't have a clear answer until recently.

"I think it's fair to say that we had been in need of a strategy for addressing web accessibility across campus for some time," says Athol Gow, co-ordinator of the Library Centre for Students With Disabili-

ties and a member of the Accessibility for Persons With Disabilities Advisory Committee (APDAC), which identifies barriers to accessibility and makes recommendations to the University. After meeting with APDAC, the Information Services Committee tasked U of G web manager Stuart Robertson with creating a web accessibility plan with measures for auditing key campus websites and improving access to Guelph's website for users with diverse abilities.

"Although we knew our home page and many other sites were already accessible, we didn't know the level of accessibility of all campus sites," says Robertson. "That's why we needed to do an audit. It was also important because we're anticipating some upcoming provincial legislation that will set standards for accessibility of university websites. We wanted to be proactive."

As the first step in the review of the site, he analyzed web pages for barriers to accessibility such as images without alternate text defined for them. After checking about 1,100 pages on the U of G website, the group involved in the project was en-

couraged by the results, he says. Although there were some barriers, most pages were reasonably accessible.

But analyzing pages can take you only so far, says Gerrit Bos, a lead analyst with Computing and Communications Services, who also worked on the project.

"That preliminary check was a good baseline but not sufficient," he says. "We thought a real human test was essential."

In fact, they needed two humans, says Gow. "We created a web audit team consisting of Carin Headrick, a recent graduate who uses JAWS, and Ed Granados, a student who works at the library's IT Help Desk. Having them work together on the audit meant Ed could spot web content that Carin was unable to perceive using JAWS and could help in diagnosing problems."

Gow adds that the review group would have liked to address more areas of disability, such as people with mobility challenges, low vision and colour-blindness, but decided that JAWS, which is used by people with serious visual impairments, acts as a "pretty good canary in the coal mine."

If a website works for someone using a screen reader, it will usually work for other forms of adaptive technology as well. We were also really pleased to be able to benefit from Carin's screen-reading expertise for this project."

Funding for this part of the audit was provided by Communications and Public Affairs, the office of the chief information officer and the Human Rights and Equity Office.

Headrick, who graduated in 2005, has been using JAWS since 1999.

"I've seen it evolve — it's gotten a lot more user-friendly," she says. "I use the Internet and e-mail a lot, but I'd never looked at the U of G website in so much detail. It was interesting to see all the different sections that I didn't even know were there."

The team put in more than 60 hours of work last summer, auditing about 80 sites.

"I think the results were good news," says Gow. "About 47 of the sites had some kind of barrier, but only 17 had serious access issues."

By "serious," he means that important material that sighted users can access is essentially not available to those using a screen reader.

As Headrick describes it: "Some of the problems were small — a picture that needed a better label or a page that needed a better layout. Some pages, however, had bigger problems. Maybe JAWS couldn't access the list of links contained in a sidebar, or it wouldn't even stop at a link. JAWS can tell me where there's an image, but it can't tell me what the image is unless it's been labelled. So if a page uses a link with an image of the words: 'Click here,' JAWS just sees that as an image and can't read the words, and I don't know that the link even exists."

Granados, the sighted student who worked with Headrick, also found the process fascinating.

"Websites are written for people using a mouse, but when you see someone using JAWS or someone with mobility problems, you realize it's not just 'click, click, click' for everyone."

Sometimes he would be the one to spot the problem. He'd ask

Headrick if she'd noticed a particular link or item on the page and discover that the screen reader hadn't picked up on it at all.

Because Bos works with people designing web pages, he found the experience of conducting the audit changed his perspective.

"When you watch someone who can't see trying to navigate through your site and hitting roadblocks that keep them from accessing what they need, you realize how important this is," he says. "It's easy for website accessibility to seem like just another task you're being asked to do, but you feel differently when you see what it means to the person using the screen reader."

With that data gathered, the review team created a preliminary report in the fall and circulated it to the groups that provided the project funding.

Robertson then divided up the audit findings by departments and units and sent individual reports to the relevant campus web co-ordinators. These co-ordinators will have a chance to respond to the issues identified in the audit before the final report is published, he says, and their efforts to correct any accessibility barriers on their respective sites will be noted at this time.

"The sites where there were difficulties have all either been updated or are in the process of updating," says Robertson.

"We redesigned the home page and provided templates that many sections have implemented. Part of the reason for the redesign was about branding and consistency, but we also sought to make further improvements to the site's accessibility at the same time."

With more and more information being provided or sent over the web, it's essential to make U of G's web pages useful and available to everyone, says Granados.

"If we say we're accessible, we have to prove it. A visually impaired student who's deciding what university to attend might go to our website, and if it isn't accessible, he or she will look elsewhere. We don't know who we might be losing to the competition — maybe a future Nobel Prize winner."



## A Greek Tragedy

Members of the cast of Euripides' *The Bacchae*, a School of English and Theatre Studies production running until March 29 at the George Luscombe Theatre, stage a scene from the classical Greek tragedy. In front, from left, are Erin Foster, Erin McMorrow and Claudia Wilt. In back are Kate Abrams, Jessica Poper and Melissa Narwani. Directed by Prof. Alan Filewod and designed by Prof. Pat Flood, the production runs nightly at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and \$10 and are available at Ext. 53147 or at the door.

PHOTO BY PAT FLOOD

## Guelph Speaks Again!

**A** GROUP OF U of G graduate students are calling for submissions for the second edition of *Guelph Speaks!*, a multimedia anthology filled with original works from Guelph residents.

The student editors are collecting fiction and non-fiction stories, poetry, music, photos, videos and art with Guelph themes until May 16. Written works should not exceed 1,000 words; film, oral and musical submissions should be under 10 minutes in length.

The anthology, which is part of English professor Ajay Heble's "Ped-

agogy, Human Rights, Critical Activism: Educating for Social Change" course, is aimed at providing a platform for stories not commonly heard and creating a collection of more inclusive and dynamic city narratives that have not been published.

The community anthology is free and will also have a companion DVD. It will be distributed in September at a launch event, which will include storytelling and performances by contributors.

For submission information, visit [www.guelphspeaks.ca](http://www.guelphspeaks.ca).



# A Woman on a Mission

BY TERESA PITMAN

**S**UE BENNETT, director of University and community relations, is on a mission to put the University of Guelph on the tip of everyone's tongue. And she believes this is the perfect time for attracting a little attention.

"The areas where we excel are the things that people are concerned about today, the issues that are in the news — the environment, biodiversity and health, for example," she says. "I want Guelph to be a buzzword so that we're the first organization people think of when they discuss these issues."

Bennett worked for the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs for 17 years before coming to U of G in 1997 to work in communications and development in the OAC dean's office. After 2½ years, she was seconded to do special projects and events in the president's office, then was appointed to her current position in 2005.

On the university relations side of her job, Bennett directs convocation and other public academic events, providing support to colleges and administrative units that want to put on programs or events that will have value for the broader University community. Working with the senior executive, deans and directors, she is always scouting out opportunities to attract the attention of a diversity of constituencies to Guelph. She also oversees the administration of the president's office and directs its information technology activities, which includes supporting a network of more than 80 users.

On the community relations side, her goal is to build relationships with the community, which she defines broadly.

"I work to develop partnerships and connections with the City of Guelph, other organizations, com-



One of Sue Bennett's 2007 projects was a visual display on Level 4 of the University Centre that traces U of G's history from 1874 to the present day. If you haven't seen the murals, she invites you to visit the fourth floor but advises that you'll need a bit of time to take them all in. "Guelph has a long and interesting history," she says.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

panies, funders, various government ministries, 'friends' and more. I want to keep Guelph's name in front of people who can make a difference for us. But that's not the whole story, because we're talking about partnerships, and that means we help them, too."

One partnership she'd like to build on is the one between the University and the city.

"I'd like there to be a presence that brings together the city, the University and the growth sectors with a common brand and profile that will lead to a common 'elevator speech,' so people think of Guelph in general as representing quality in education, quality of life and the ability

to translate research into real opportunities."

She notes that the entire Guelph community benefits from many of the special events hosted at the University because they bring in business and expertise.

Bennett is quick to acknowledge that achieving her goals wouldn't be possible without the contributions of special projects manager Claire Alexander and convocation and annual events co-ordinator Leslie LaCelle. "I simply couldn't do all this without them."

For Bennett, one of the most satisfying aspects of her work is that many of her tasks and projects are self-directed.

"I'm encouraged to go out and be creative. My goal is always to improve the quality of everything we do and really boost the 'wow' factor."

In keeping with one of U of G's strengths, one project she's currently working on is the "greening" of University events, which she says will become "a cornerstone in our best-practices tool kit."

She also loves the variety in her job and having the opportunity to work on new and different activities. Good thing, because the number of activities just keeps growing. A statistical review Bennett completed showed an increase in activities and events of more than 800 per cent between 2003 and 2007. "You have to

wear your running shoes to keep up in this job," she says.

Being able to keep track of a million details is obviously an essential skill in her job, and so is the ability to communicate well.

"The University is a huge organization, and it's important to talk to everyone. When people know what's going on and what you're planning, they will have their own great ideas to contribute and new twists to add."

Case in point is last year's "Shakespeare — Made in Canada" festival, which drew on the talents and expertise of hundreds of members of the University and local communities.

Among the events Bennett is looking forward to this year is an October celebration of the 100th anniversary of the publication of Lucy Maud Montgomery's *Anne of Green Gables*. U of G has an extensive collection of archival material about Montgomery's life, and Bennett is working with the Japanese Consul and the Japan Foundation to bring (for the first time in North America) two Japanese animated movies about Anne to be part of a four-day conference.

The conference will also feature the launch of a new Montgomery bibliography by University professor emerita Mary Rubio, English and Theatre Studies, and an exhibit that includes some of Montgomery's photographs of Canada as it was 100 years ago.

"I see this as another chance to reveal another facet of the University," says Bennett. "People don't generally think of us as an arts or humanities school, but we have so much to offer in that area."

Her excitement about the event is intertwined with her desire to promote U of G.

"It's reaching out to another community, people who might not think of the University of Guelph. Now I hope they will."

## Student Wades Through Data and Water Channels

Guelph biologists find maintenance of rural watercourses no great drain on fish habitat

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**B**ELINDA WARD-CAMPBELL grew up splashing through streams around Cambridge. Today the PhD student in the Department of Integrative Biology still wades through rural watercourses, but now she's helping to answer controversial questions that pit Ontario farmers against fisheries biologists.

Along with Prof. Rob McLaughlin, she has found some surprises in those streams that may help farmers resolve long-standing disputes with biologists trying to protect fish habitat.

That research follows a paper published this spring by McLaughlin along with former master's student Katie Stammmler and co-supervisor Nicholas Mandrak in the *Canadian Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sci-*

*ences* on the effects of rural drain maintenance on fish habitat.

For many farmers, agricultural drains exist mostly to drain water from fields. To work properly, those drains — usually routed along existing streams running through farms — need to be routinely cleared of vegetation by municipalities. That involves using heavy machines at certain points to scour everything out of the water channel down to bare earth.

That often pits farmers and drain superintendents against fisheries biologists with the federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO), who view these watercourses as valuable habitat under the Fisheries Act.

"They've been clashing because some farmers have cleaned out their drains and the DFO has said you can't do that," says McLaughlin. "In

some cases, the DFO has threatened to fine people."

Ward-Campbell says her field studies since 2006 in southwestern Ontario point to common ground between the two sides. Along with vegetation, fish species repopulate the dredged channels more quickly than expected; drains are much like ordinary creeks and streams.

"I'm still wading through the data, but it appears they're recovering in a relatively short time," she says. "Fish are coming back, and the numbers and kinds of fish found in a system return to normal in about a year."

Referring to passersby who object to seeing a backhoe digging in a rural creek, she adds: "Drain maintenance may not be the horrible thing they think it is."

That echoes work done earlier by

Stammmler, who is now extending those studies for her PhD at the University of Western Ontario.

"What Katie's data suggest is that the long-term effects of drain maintenance are not as great as habitat managers thought," McLaughlin says.

He notes that both students have shared their work with drain superintendents and fisheries biologists. He hopes those experts will use his students' results to amend practices in ways that keep farmers and biologists happy.

Ward-Campbell completed her undergraduate degree at Guelph and did her master's with retired U of G zoologist Prof. Bill Beamish, who is now studying fish in Thailand.

Her current research has her catching and releasing fish, collecting insects and measuring streams.

Recalling her childhood wading through the Speed River in Cambridge, she says: "I've always been knee-deep in mud."

She and Stammmler are both co-supervised by Mandrak, a scientist at the Canada Centre for Inland Waters in Burlington.

McLaughlin is interested in bow native fish such as pike and brook trout manage to live in streams running through farmland — and often in areas of southwestern Ontario with sometimes-conflicting land uses from farming to housing.

"It's easy to overlook a system that could be important in nursery habitat and fishery habitat for native fishes," he says.

He suggests that planting trees in spots as streamside buffers may help provide fish habitat to compensate for drain maintenance elsewhere.



# A Battle for Freedom

Historian's new book tells stories of former slaves turned soldiers during the Civil War

BY TERESA PITMAN

It's 1861. The American Civil War has started, and men are needed to fight on both sides. But in the Union states, some are turned away when they try to enlist. Why? Because they're black.

It seems ironic, given how we think of slavery as one of the underlying issues of the Civil War. But when the war started, the Union army would accept only white soldiers, says Prof. Richard Reid, History, author of the new book *Freedom for Themselves*.

"The U.S. administration was initially adamant that it would be a white man's war," says Reid. "Lincoln had a difficult task. While he himself was opposed to slavery, not everyone in the north was. At the beginning of the war, there were still some slave-owning states that remained loyal to the Union, and Lincoln believed it was essential to keep them in the Union. He could move only as fast as he could drag a unified north with him."

But things changed. After the Emancipation Proclamation went into effect in January 1863, black men became eligible to enlist. As Union forces captured the eastern section of North Carolina that year, more than 5,000 slaves in that state eventually escaped from their owners and joined the army.

The stories of these former slaves turned soldiers in a battle for their own freedom form the basis of Reid's new book. It tells their stories from the time they enlisted in the army, through the war and into the post-war reconstruction period, and also looks at what happened to the families left behind.

Uncovering these stories wasn't easy, says Reid.

"It was illegal to teach slaves to read and write, so there aren't many written records from these soldiers. You have to tease out their stories from the official documents."

What he's managed to learn, however, is fascinating. Reid notes, for example, that Lincoln's decision to use black troops outraged the Confederate southerners. As one southern general commented at the time, if black slaves could make good soldiers, then their whole basis of slavery was wrong. At first, the Confederates threatened that any captured black soldier, or any white officer commanding black troops, would be treated as an escaped slave or an insurrectionist rather than a prisoner of war. Lincoln responded that in whatever way the Confederate army treated a black soldier, so the Union army would treat a Confederate soldier. Officially, the Confederates relented, agreeing to treat the black soldiers as prisoners of war.

"But there was a famous incident at Fort Pillow," says Reid. "General Nathan Bedford Forrest, who reputedly started the Ku Klux Klan after the war, attacked this fort, which was held by both white and black troops. When the fort was captured, a large number of the black soldiers were killed, and the reports are that many were killed while surrendering. There's no evidence of specific orders to kill the black soldiers, but clearly Forrest did little to stop this, and obviously messages can be passed on without having documented orders given."

Reid mentions this incident to highlight the additional difficulties that black soldiers faced during the Civil War.

"They went through the same tedious, boring and frightening hardships that all Civil War soldiers

endured. They were always short of supplies. Most of those who died succumbed to disease rather than being killed in battle. But the black soldiers also had to worry about being killed if they were captured by southerners who resented their participation in the war. And many of the black troops had second-class equipment — guns that didn't work, tents that leaked."

Black soldiers also had more worries about the families they left behind, he says. For white soldiers on both sides, their families were usually part of a supportive community. The escaped slaves who enlisted were sometimes able to bring their families to the Union encampments, but others had escaped without their families, leaving them with the slave owners, where they might face retaliation. Many slave owners moved their remaining slaves to other areas, farther away from the places controlled by the Union army, so a black soldier might not even know where his family was when he returned.

Some of the stories from these times hint at the complexity of the relationships involved. Reid describes how one slave left his family and friends behind with the slave owner when he escaped to join the Union army. After the war, he returned to the farm where he'd been a slave, married a woman he grew up with and continued to work there as a free man until he died. His former owner's son testified for the black veteran when he applied for his pension.

Many stories didn't have such positive endings. Most black soldiers "lived lives of quiet destitution" after the war, says Reid. On the other hand, "in some ways, the army treated the black soldiers more equitably than they had previously experienced."

The army learned that it could function most efficiently when it was colour-blind."

That realization didn't happen overnight, however. At first, the black soldiers were paid less than their white counterparts.

"This became an issue of principle for them," says Reid. "Most, especially the black soldiers from the northern states, refused to accept the pay. After a year, Congress ruled that everyone would be paid the same and that the pay would be given retroactively, except for those who had been slaves in 1861. The argument was that, for those former slaves, their freedom was enough of a bonus. Eventually, Congress reconsidered and all were paid equally."

Although the unequal pay for soldiers who were clearly doing the same job and risking their lives in the same way seems shocking to modern readers, Reid notes that the army actually changed remarkably quickly over a few years.

"In 1861, slavery and the inequality of blacks were widely accepted and defended by the government. So to be treating them as entitled to equal rights and pay in the army just a few years later is a big change in a

relatively short time."

The war gave black soldiers the opportunity to demonstrate their abilities on a level playing field, and ultimately it accomplished just what the southern general had feared: it proved the basis for slavery was false.

"There's a cartoon by Thomas Nast from the end of the war that reflects this," says Reid. "It shows two Union veterans, one white and one black, both on crutches because they had each lost a leg. They are shaking hands, and the caption says: 'A man recognizes a man.'"

The historian's next project is on a related topic.

"I'm researching the black men from what was then British North America — Canada — who joined the Union army and navy during the Civil War," says Reid. "Almost 1,000 black soldiers and about 450 sailors were recruited from Canada, most of them from what is now Ontario."

He's interested in tracing the lives of these soldiers during the war and afterwards. "Many of them were escaped slaves who had fled to Canada before the war. I'm curious about whether they came back to Canada after the war ended or stayed in the United States."

## Study of Mould Toxin Earns Kudos

Thomson-Scientific flags article as 'fast-breaking paper'

BY ANDREW VOWLES

CHEMISTRY PROFESSOR Richard Manderville isn't about to ban cereal from his preteen daughters' breakfast bowls. But his studies suggest that health regulators should consider tightening up standards for a mould toxin in cereal and wheat linked to cancer and kidney disease.

So says a review paper co-written by Manderville in 2007 that has just been named one of the most-cited papers in its discipline. It was co-authored by toxicologist Annie Pfohl-Leskiewicz of France and published last year in *Molecular Nutrition and Food Research*.

"Ochratoxin A: An Overview on Toxicity and Carcinogenicity in Animals and Humans" was flagged by Thomson-Scientific's Essential Science Indicators database as a "fast-breaking paper" in agricultural sciences — no mean feat for a chemist and a toxicologist, says Manderville.

"I was surprised to see that. The work I do normally publishes in chemistry journals."

An article about their paper will appear on the Thomson-Scientific ScienceWatch website in April.

Made by fungi, ochratoxin-A (OTA) occurs in improperly stored food products, particularly wheat and cereal products. It has been linked to kidney cancer in rats and kidney damage in pigs. In people, it's believed to cause kidney disease and associated urinary tract tumours. The International Agency for Re-

search on Cancer has listed OTA as a possible human carcinogen.

In their paper, Manderville and his co-author reviewed studies of OTA and called for stricter exposure limits.

The U of G chemist has studied how such substances attach to DNA and alter it to cause tumours. His French collaborator contacted him after reading about his work published in 2003 in the *Journal of the American Chemical Society*.

Their review paper is commonly cited by other scientists writing about OTA and other mycotoxins — substances produced by fungi.

Manderville says their work has stirred controversy among international food companies and within Health Canada. Here at home, he says, authorities are concerned about the possible effects of this research on foreign sales of Canadian wheat and cereal grains.

OTA and other mycotoxins thrive in northern wet climates such as those in Manitoba. A Health Canada study a couple of years ago found that the toxin is present in about half of Canadian breakfast cereals and many grain products.

Manderville says mycotoxins have always been present in cereals, but lab techniques to detect them have improved recently. Other researchers funded by at least one large food company have found different results, although he says his own study results were unequivocal.



**HUMBER**

School of Applied Technology



In just two semesters at Humber, you could upgrade your degree with a postgraduate certificate in

**Wireless Telecommunications,  
Supply Chain Management  
or Project Management.**

## Make technology work for you.

Apply now and be well on your way to a successful career in technology.

[humber.ca/makeitwork](http://humber.ca/makeitwork)



# Heritage Through the Lens

Photographer interprets landscape and history of Canada from a First Nations perspective

By TERESA PITMAN

**A**S A YOUNG BOY growing up in the First Nations Haisla community of Kitimaat, B.C., Prof. Arthur Renwick, Fine Art and Music, already felt the pull towards art.

"I have an early memory, when I was about five or six years old, of my mother calling my name and trying to find me, and I was sitting behind an easy chair flipping through the phonebook and studying the designs," he recalls.

It was around the same time that he took a plain cotton bag and drew the peace symbol on one side, then drew a picture of his hand with two fingers held up to make the peace sign on the other side.

"My cousin asked me where I'd bought the bag and didn't believe me when I said I'd drawn it myself. I had to draw another picture of my hand while my cousin watched to prove that I could do it."

Despite that early evidence of talent, Renwick didn't take his first art class until he was in Grade 10. "My art teacher announced right away that I could draw better than she could," he says.

It would have been easy for his teachers and parents to tell him that a career in art was impractical. He could have been nudged — or pushed — towards a more pragmatic occupation. But they recognized his talent, and the support Renwick received as a teen encouraged him to enrol at the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design in Vancouver. There his interests shifted away from drawing.

"In my first couple of years at art school, I won awards for my drawing. I was very good at super-realism. But I began to be frustrated by the amount of time it took to do that kind of drawing, and I thought I could get the image I wanted much faster by taking a photo."

He switched his major to photography and, after graduating from Emily Carr, went on to earn an MFA at Concordia University.

For Renwick, the medium is less important than the message.

"When I started, my primary interest was to convey some concepts about First Nations people — our history, our heritage, our identity, the politics involved, who we are today. I haven't really strayed from that."

After graduating from Concordia, he did a curatorial internship at the Power Plant Contemporary Art Gallery in Toronto.

"I worked there for a year and a half and learned a lot very quickly. The highlight was probably when I was invited to curate the show of my choice — to do the research, select the artist and apply for the grant. I brought in a show of sculptural work by a First Nations artist named Faye HeavyShield."

From there, Renwick went to Ottawa to work as assistant curator of the Canadian Museum of Civilization. "It was like night and day. At the Power Plant, we had 11 employees; at the museum, there were more than 500. But again, I learned a lot."

After more than two years there, he began to feel that he'd put his own art on the back burner long enough. He moved back to Toronto, built up a portfolio and found work teaching at the Ontario College of Art and Design. Three years later, he was exhibiting his art extensively and teaching at U of G.

As Renwick describes his creative process, it becomes easier to understand why his work has so much impact. The images are powerful even without the back story, but the meaning deepens as you become aware of the history behind each photograph.

The route to his series of photographs titled "Delegates: Chiefs of the Earth and Sky," for example, was a long one.

"I came across an old textbook called *The North American Indian* that included a series of historical photos taken between 1850 and 1890. There was some land in South Dakota that was initially given to the Indians and declared to be Indian territory. This was also a time of rapid expansion of the white population, and the land turned out to be prime farmland, so settlers were moving in and setting up homesteads. Tensions were growing,

so the cavalry came in and built Fort Laramie, which created a lot of strife with the native population."

At that point, the U.S. government brought many of the chiefs and warriors to Washington to persuade them to sign a treaty that would have them give up all their land and move to reserves. It was while the chiefs were in Washington that the photos in *The North American Indian* were taken.

"They were called delegate photos because these people were the delegates of the Indians. The original photographs are now in the Library of Congress."

Many of the portraits show native chiefs such as Red Cloud, Sitting Bull and American Horse, names still well-known today. (Renwick notes that Crazy Horse was also there but famously refused to be photographed.)

"Those photos spoke to me," says Renwick. "I also learned that some of these delegate photos were later used as wanted posters when conflicts had escalated and the government had hired bounty hunters to seek out and kill some of the chiefs and warriors. I wanted to do something based on that history."

He travelled to South Dakota with 40 rolls of film and spent several days documenting the landscape, taking photographs of the sites where many of the historical events had played out.

"I took pictures that showed the land just below the horizon, with no visible sky, just a sense of disappearing perspective."

The printed photos were then mounted on sheets of aluminum, so the backing appeared to be a metallic sky. Into that "sky" he carved punctuation marks, which seem to hover over the landscape.

"The punctuation marks are the spaces in between the words, the silences in between. They symbolize the language used in the treaty — English — a language the Lakota couldn't understand or read, yet they were expected to sign it. I named each artwork after one of the warriors, using their traditional Lakota names."



"Delegates: Chiefs of the Earth and Sky" has been exhibited in Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg, Saskatoon and Brazil, but Renwick isn't finished with the ideas generated by his research.

"I was thinking about photographs of Indians and how they've been used. I decided to create my own portraits, and as I thought about that, I thought about masks. My brother is a mask carver, and West Coast First Nations peoples have a long heritage of carved wooden masks."

From these concepts, he developed a series of photographs called "Mask."

"It's a series of portraits of First Nations professionals involved in the arts (including U of G English professor Thomas King), closely cropped around their faces. I asked them to think about the history of the relationship between the camera lens and the Indian and to make a facial gesture in response. So they are distorting their faces in the photos."

The resulting series of large-scale photos "feels very confrontational," he says. "It makes people uncomfortable."

The importance of these challenging portraits was recognized recently when the National Gallery of Canada bought the entire series for its permanent collection.

Another ongoing project is a series of photographs of churches on reserves in British Columbia, which Renwick adds to each summer. A small series of this work was exhibited alongside a show of Emily Carr's paintings at the Art Gallery of Ontario last March.

"Every reserve has a church," he says. "They're usually a bone-white building on top of a hill. Most of them were built in the late 1800s or early 1900s, and they symbolize the attempt to erase the First Nations' cultures and beliefs. Yet today these churches still tend to be well-kept and cared for, even when the houses around them are not. About 95 per cent of the reserves still have their original churches."

Although creating and teaching visual art fills his days — and even his summers — Renwick also finds creative satisfaction in another area: his music.

"I've played the guitar since I was 10, and by the time I was attending art school in Vancouver, I was playing bass in three different bands. I played all kinds of music — everything from old-time country and '50s rock 'n' roll to heavy metal, reggae and blues."

While living in Montreal, he spent less time on his music as he focused on his graduate studies, but that changed in 1995 when he met his now-partner, Jani Lauzon, a Juno-nominated blues singer and actress who has won awards for her work as a puppeteer on children's TV shows, including *Mr. Dressup*.

"Jani got me into writing music and performing with her," says Renwick. "In the past five years, I've written about 60 songs and have been doing more solo performing. I play bottleneck slide on a Dobro. Some friends of mine recorded me performing live, and we made a CD out of that for me to sell at gigs. My music is roots-based, singer-songwriter, blues-country kind of music." (You can hear some samples at [www.myspace.com/arthurrenwick](http://www.myspace.com/arthurrenwick).)

Renwick and Lauzon have a nine-year-old daughter who is carrying on the family musical traditions. She recently announced that she wants to start her own band, and also auditioned for and won the lead role in a musical her school is putting on. "She beat out a lot of older kids," says Renwick with fatherly pride.

It's clearly come full circle. The young boy who once hid behind a chair to study the designs that fascinated him now has a young girl discovering her own talents. Within this family where leading roles and creative expression are just part of life, Renwick continues to develop new projects and find new ways to communicate with the world artistically. As he says: "I want to keep breaking new ground, interpreting the landscape and history of Canada from a First Nations perspective."

PHOTO BY MADYA KWANIBENS



# Making the Right Contacts

New peer contact program allows first-year political science majors to interact with senior students

BY TERESA PITMAN

**F**IRST-YEAR STUDENTS know that starting university can be intimidating: new freedoms, new responsibilities and courses that may cover areas they've never studied before.

"We were looking for a way to help first-year students get over that sense of being intimidated," says Prof. Carol Dauda, Political Science. "We thought that helping first-year political science majors interact with senior students might help them get their questions answered and feel connected to the department."

So Dauda initiated what she calls a peer contact program, which has proven to be helpful to first- and second-year students and to have other benefits as well.

Three years ago in the spring, she invited students just finishing their second or third year with an average of at least 75 per cent to participate in the program. More than 20 signed on.

"They were all very enthusiastic about the idea," she says.

The first year of the program was fairly low-key, with the peer contacts doing a small presentation as part of orientation, says Dauda. Last year, however, they became a major part of the political science orientation meetings by answering questions and working with small groups of students. She notes that the feedback from first-year students has been very positive.

Besides participating in orientation, the peer contacts take turns hosting "office hours" one evening a

week. This is an informal time when students can drop in and ask questions, get information or just chat about the program. Even students who aren't studying political science have come by to learn more about it, says Dauda.

The peer contact program also gives new students an opportunity to connect with the student-run Political Science Society that started last year, she adds.

And those other benefits she mentioned?

"The senior students are all on a list-serve so they can be in touch with each other, and they've become a kind of ongoing focus group for the department. That's been very important as we've looked at things like curriculum review."

Involvement in the program has

also helped the senior students make connections and learn about other on-campus opportunities, says Dauda, who adds that she's impressed at how the students have taken responsibility for the program and for making it successful.

She's also excited about a project developed by fourth-year peer contact Zakiah Taha, who has put together a questionnaire to get information about the goals, interests and political experiences of senior political science students.

"She's developing this into an e-book of profiles that we can put on our website and that will be very helpful for new students. Many of them ask what they can do with a political science degree, and this will help them see what senior students are planning and thinking about."

## Online Journal Features Student Research

**T**HE IMPACT OF AIR POLLUTION on the Beijing Olympics, poor nutrition during pregnancy and the influenza vaccine are some of the topics included in this year's edition of the University's electronic journal of undergraduate research.

*SURG (Studies by Undergraduate Researchers at Guelph)* is designed to showcase studies by undergrads in all disciplines on campus and to expose students to the academic publication process.

The second issue of *SURG* was recently released online and includes 10 peer-reviewed papers.

"The scope and depth of the contributions in this issue of *SURG* provide fascinating insight into a range of topics and the research experiences and interests of our undergraduate students," says Prof. Steven Liss, associate vice-president (research services).

"Whether building on a passion for an idea or subject or providing important experiences ahead of graduate studies, *SURG* is a key element of an increasingly important aspect of undergraduate research."

Launched last year by the Office of Research and the U of G Library, the electronic journal is one of only a few such journals in Canada.

Original research papers and literature reviews are currently being accepted for the fall 2008 issue. The deadline for submissions is May 16. *SURG* is also accepting applications for volunteer student editors.

For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~surg](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~surg).



**STOP**  
IN AT H&R BLOCK



**FAST**  
TAX PREP



**START**  
SPENDING

Students, come in for your tax preparation and get instant cash back in just one visit.

Student  
tax prep  
**\$29<sup>95</sup>**  
get a FREE  
SPC card.

come in today or call  
1-800-HRBLOCK (472-5625)  
[www.hrblock.ca](http://www.hrblock.ca)

**H&R BLOCK®**

To qualify for student pricing, student must present either (i) a T2202a documenting 4 or more months of full-time attendance at a college or university during 2007 or (ii) a valid high school identification card. Expires July 31, 2008. Must also qualify for Instant Cash Back and Cash Back products. See office for details. Valid only at participating H&R Block locations in Canada. SPC Card offers valid from 04/01/07 to 07/31/08 at participating locations in Canada only. For Cardholder only. Other may vary, restrictions may apply. Usage may be restricted when used in conjunction with any other offer or retailer loyalty card discounts. Cannot be used towards the purchase of gift cards or certificates.



OPTOMETRISTS  
**GOEMANS  
& ASSOCIATES**

**Dr. Donna Goemans**  
**Dr. Paul Goemans**  
**Dr. Doris Hrvatin**  
**Dr. Tiffany Tang**  
Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED**

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,  
Laser Surgery Consultation

570 Kortright Rd. W. Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**

Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible



## LAURIE HALFPENNY-MITCHELL

Manager of finance and administration in the College of Management and Economics, joined U of G in 2001

"My life pretty much revolves around soccer," says Laurie Halfpenny-Mitchell. That's when she's not at work, of course.

And her soccer goals are big. Right now, she's on a team that will compete in the World Masters Games in Sydney, Australia, in the fall of 2009.

"The World Masters are like a mini-Olympics for competitors over 30," she says. "There will be other Canadian teams there, too, but we'll compete against people from around the world."

The women on the team include two other Guelphites and a total of four U of G graduates, including Halfpenny-Mitchell herself, who received an engineering degree in 1997.

"We practise twice a week in Burlington and will increase that to three times a week once the weather warms up," she says.

Sending a team of soccer players to the other side of the world is an expensive proposition — and that means fundraising.

"We did a calendar this year, and people can still e-mail me if they want to buy one," she says. "We also had a Valentine's Day dance and are planning a dance for Halloween."

Although Halfpenny-Mitchell loves playing soccer, coaching is another aspect of the sport she enjoys.

"Many of us on the team are coaches as well. We want to empower young girls and show them what they can accomplish and the potential in the sport of soccer."

Her four-year-old daughter is on one of the teams she coaches. "She's been playing for two seasons now and loves it," says Halfpenny-Mitchell, whose husband also plays soccer. "In fact, our two-year-old also wants to play."

Besides reinforcing the family passion for soccer, Halfpenny-Mitchell has found time to continue her education and is currently working on her CMA (certified management accountant) designation.



Laurie Halfpenny-Mitchell

they helped me develop the characters. I'd tell them a chapter a day or a chapter a week, and some of the stories lasted for a year."

Farahbakhsh adds that he comes from a storytelling culture, so sharing stories this way "comes naturally."

Natural or not, he says he's developed strategies to make his sessions more effective.

"I want to make sure the audience connects to either the characters or the theme of the story, so I try to talk to the children a bit before I begin my story, to get to know them. Then when I tell the story, I might change some of the characters' names to the names of some of the children who are listening. Or I might set the story in a place that's familiar to the children."

Humour is another important element, he says. "Even sad stories can have humour."

And when an audience laughs with you or calls out comments, you know you have their attention, and their response actually helps the story along, says Farahbakhsh. "It's the interaction between the storyteller and the audience that brings it to life."

## EMILIE MCBRIDE

Third-year international development student

Last year, Emilie McBride participated in U of G's Guatemala semester and discovered a program that she's still enthusiastically supporting today.

"There's a 25-year-old woman who's started an education centre in a poorer part of Guatemala," says McBride. "I love her program and her ambitions for the centre, and of course I fell in love with the kids while I was there."

Called Fundacion Educarte, the centre takes students from age three to 12, teaching kindergarten to Grade 6. It also has a kitchen, so the staff can provide meals for the children.

McBride, who's doing a minor in Spanish, has taken on the role of translator between the Fundacion founder and a Mississauga company called Parrish and Heinbecker, which provides much of the funding for the centre.

"She sends me biweekly updates about what they're doing and what they might need, and I translate her e-mails into English and pass them on to Parrish and Heinbecker," says McBride.

She's also sponsoring one of the students at the centre. "There's a huge need for sponsors for the children. I'm a student and I'm totally poor, but I've actually been there and seen the children and their living situations. I've taught in the school and I've been in some of their homes, so I know what it's really like. That's made me determined to help out, and I find a way to come up with \$40 each month."

McBride returned to Guatemala and the centre during Reading Week in February and was impressed by the progress that's being made. She's also been involved with the campus Oxfam Club since arriving at U of G and is on the executive this year.

Her international experiences while at Guelph have made a huge difference in her life, says McBride. "I think going abroad is the biggest asset you can bring to your learning. You learn about the world, but you also learn about yourself. It changes your perspective."

To learn more about Fundacion Educarte or to make a donation, visit [www.educarteguate.org](http://www.educarteguate.org).



Emilie McBride

# Open Houses to Introduce E-mail, Calendar System

New application '1,000 per cent faster' than WEBmail

U OF G FACULTY, staff and students are invited to drop in and meet the new campus e-mail and calendar system at open houses set for March 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Room 424 of the University Centre and April 2 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in Room 1713 of the OVC Lifetime Learning Centre.

The open houses are designed to provide a general introduction to the new e-mail and calendar application that will replace WEBmail and Oracle Calendar and reduce the need for mail software such as Thunderbird and Oracle.

The new system, which will be in use campus-wide by the end of May, has been undergoing extensive pilot testing for the past six weeks with great success, says Computing and Communications associate director Bo Wandschneider. Pilot users, who

include students, faculty, staff and mobile users with varying degrees of technical ability, have described the new application as "1,000 per cent faster, more usable and easier on the eyes" than WEBmail, he says.

Benefits of the new system include vastly increased storage capacity, much better support for mobile use, drag-and-drop capability between e-mail and calendar, easy-to-use appointment management and room booking, improved spam and virus filtering and generally better functionality, says Wandschneider.

"The list of benefits and enhanced usability goes on and on."

Watch for more detailed information about migration strategies and a contest to name the new system.

For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/about/projects/email\\_cal/index.shtml](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/about/projects/email_cal/index.shtml).

# Guelph Skeptics Club Hosts Lecture

THE GUELPH SKEPTICS Club presents a talk by University of Waterloo computer scientist Jeffrey Shallit March 26 at 7 p.m. in Room 1200 of the Thornbrough Building. He will discuss "Misinformation Theory: How Creationists Abuse Mathematics."

The club, which formally organized on campus this year, has 100 members, mostly students, on its mailing list.

"We're primarily interested in promoting skepticism as a method of inquiry and promoting the importance of critical thinking in society at large," says club member Chris Hlynialuk, who completed a master's degree in microbiology in 2006 and is now one of three research assistants with the Food Safety Network's call centre on campus. He says the group aims to debunk pseudoscientific and paranormal claims.

Guelph Skeptics is a U of G chap-

ter of the Centre for Inquiry, an international group of humanists and freethinkers.

The local group organizes lectures and discussions and contributes to public policy debates on such issues as public funding of religious schools, global warming and 9/11 conspiracy theories.

Last week, the club hosted a public lecture with Laurence Moran of the University of Toronto discussing the evidence for evolution.

Referring to the audience for such events, Hlynialuk says: "We hope people get a better understanding of what scientists actually say and know about the evidence, regardless of whether they agree with the conclusion. There's a lot of interest in science, but people lack a deep understanding of how science works and what it claims to explain."

For more information, send e-mail to [guelphskeptics@gmail.com](mailto:guelphskeptics@gmail.com).

## KHOSROW FARAHBAKHSH

Faculty member in the School of Engineering since 2003

Prof. Khosrow Farahbakhsh sees storytelling as an art form.

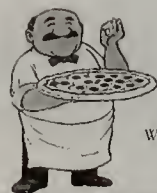
"It's an art that's dying out and yet it has universal appeal," he says. "Everyone loves a good story, especially if the storyteller can convey it in a way that captures the audience's imagination."

Farahbakhsh is that kind of storyteller, and his skills have led to invitations to tell stories at numerous gatherings, meetings and events. Some of the stories are non-fiction and based on historical events; for those, he puts in hours of research to ensure they're accurate. Others are fictional stories he creates for the occasion.

He discovered his ability to make stories come to life through his experiences with his own family. "I started telling stories to my children when they were little. I created the characters at first, and as my children got older,



Khosrow Farahbakhsh



# Two Plus Pizza

WE DELIVER!! 519-766-9696

208 Yorkshire North

Large Gluten-Free Whole Wheat or Spelt Pizza  
3 Toppings & 3 Pops  
2 Dipping Sauce

\$15.99

Large Pep Pizza  
\$7.99

Large Pizza  
3 Toppings  
2 Dipping Sauce  
3 Pops  
\$13.99

3 Medium Pizzas  
3 Toppings  
12" Garlic Bread  
1 lbs Wings/Samosa  
3 Pops  
3 Dipping Sauce

\$26.99

2 Large Pizza - 3 Topping  
\$17.99

Greek-Meat-Veggie Deluxe or Hawaiian Pizza  
Small...\$8.99  
Medium...\$9.99  
Large...\$11.99

# D & D GRANITEWORX INC

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
[graniteworx@bellnet.ca](mailto:graniteworx@bellnet.ca)



## Kids Get the Royal Treatment



Thousands of people turned out for College Royal weekend March 15 and 16, and children's activities were a big part of the fun. Above, five-year-old Brendan Gunn, foreground, checks out some creepy crawlies at a display put on by OVC's Class of 2010. Below, four-year-old Eden Kendall waits for Kyle Gillespie, a second-year marine and freshwater biology student, to place a starfish in her hands. The annual open house involved about 3,000 student and staff volunteers.

PHOTOS BY BARRY GUNN  
AND REBECCA KENDALL

## New Dean of OAC Leading Authority on Climate Issues

*Continued from page 1*

both within the University and externally in creating effective partnerships and programs that will help forge a new and vibrant OAC."

Gordon adds that OAC's strong and active alumni networks have allowed him to stay well-informed over the years, especially in terms of the growth that U of G has experienced.

He holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering and a master's degree in agricultural physics from McGill University and a PhD in land resource science from U of G. He also holds an engineering diploma from NSAC.

In 2007, he was presented with a Premier's Award of Excellence, the most prestigious award a Nova Scotia public servant can receive.

He also received the Young Engineer of the Year Award from the Canadian Society of Agricultural

Engineering, the Young Agrologists Award from the Nova Scotia Institute of Agrologists and the first Graham K. Walker Memorial Award for Excellence in Agrometeorology from the Canadian Society of Agrometeorology.

Gordon is the chief administrator of the Nova Scotia Environmental Farm Plan Program, sits on a Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council grant committee, chairs the science and innovation chapter of the province's Agricultural Policy Framework, and is a former chair of the Canada Committee on Natural Resources under the Canadian Agricultural Research Council.

In announcing the appointment, Mancuso thanked the search committee for their hard work and the University community for its participation in the selection process.

### AT GUELPH PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

Publication Date	Deadline
April 9	April 1
April 23	April 15
May 7	April 29
May 21	May 13
June 4	May 27
June 18	June 10

### YOUR PREFERRED

Group  
Auto & Home

### INSURANCE PROGRAM



Call today for a no-obligation quote

Toll Free  
1-800-482-0822

Local  
519-836-5700

Or visit our website at  
[www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)



Save Up To 50%  
in Insurance Product Discounts

*plus*  
Your Group Discount!



Visit us at [www.economicalinsurance.com](http://www.economicalinsurance.com)

### Relay for Life

at the  
University of Guelph  
March 29, 2008

Relay for Life is a 12-hour overnight non-competitive event held in Alumni Stadium to raise money for the Canadian Cancer Society. This is the fourth year U of G has hosted an event. The University holds the record for most money raised by a post-secondary institution — more than \$83,570 last year.

Come join us for the opening ceremonies at 6:30 p.m., the survivors' lap at 7 p.m. and the luminary ceremony at 10:30 p.m.

For more information, visit  
<http://www.uoguelph.ca/~relay>.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

Large two-bedroom cottage on Lake McQuaby south of North Bay, open-concept kitchen and living room, gas fireplace, wraparound deck, main-floor laundry, Pat, Ext. 52742 or prichard@uoguelph.ca.

Seventy-gallon aquarium with stand, filter with media, new protein skimmer, two heaters, aeration pumps and test kits, 519-822-0170.

Household items: kitchen appliances, furniture, tools, all in good condition; 1997 Chrysler Intrepid, 151,000 km, must sell before April 8, dr.peter.sedlar@gmx.at.

## FOR RENT

Furnished lower level of condo, fireplace, private bath, small kitchen/laundry area, shared front entrance with owner, parking, on bus route, suitable for quiet, mature, non-smoking female, no pets, available May 1, \$575 a month inclusive, afmrec@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom house in south end, three baths, open-concept family room, gourmet kitchen, deck overlooking conservation area, on bus route, ideal for visiting faculty, available Aug. 1 to mid-December, Melody, Ext. 54923, 519-836-6264 or m.wren@uoguelph.ca.

Partially furnished two-bedroom second-floor apartment with balcony in older semi, close to Exhibition Park, bus stops and downtown, parking, laundry, storage, suitable for quiet single or couple, non-smokers, no pets, available now, \$975 a month, Wilfred, Ext. 54023 or wilfred@pr.uoguelph.ca.

Furnished two-bedroom house, walking distance to campus and downtown, fireplace, deck, parking and all amenities, available for short-term rental from April to August 2008, \$1,250 a month inclusive, photos available, mmaidmen@uoguelph.ca.

Basement sublet in townhouse, private bath, laundry, parking, cooking facilities, furnished common room, wireless Internet, available May 1 to Aug. 30, \$399 a month inclusive, 519-265-2112.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fnimoll@rogers.com.

## WANTED

U of G's Driving Research Lab is looking for licensed drivers aged 65 and older to take part in study involving driving simulator, Ryan, 519-822-4947.

Part-time nanny for toddler, Monday and Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., must also be able to do small chores around the house, flexible start date of April 15, previous experience with toddlers desirable but not necessary, possibility of full-time position

beginning in late summer, manand@uoguelph.ca.

Responsible student to babysit two children on occasional Saturdays, Gordon/Arnell area, srusco-bray@rogers.com.

## AVAILABLE

Fiddle/manolin and acoustic guitar lessons at your location, more than 30 years of musical experience, Matthew, 519-822-0013 or mjglass1@hotmail.com.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 519-836-8086 or clemmers@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca.

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G4

(519) 821-7800  
Fax (519) 821-7810

**AVAILABLE MAY 1/08  
SHORT / LONG TERM  
2 Bedrooms Fully Furnished**  
This rare find is ideal for business or relocating professionals. Walk in with only your suitcase to upscale, beautifully decorated.  
Immaculate condo in historical Phoenix Mill with view towards river. Jacuzzi, 1 1/2 baths, equipped kitchen, ensuite laundry, A/C, parking, fitness room. \$1,495 a month and \$100 flat fee for utilities (includes cable).  
Carol, 519-823-1857, or leave message at lntalent@hotmail.com.



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by March 28 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the March 12 photo was of the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario: Bill Clair, Danny Martin, Rose Kucman, John Van Manen, Joanne Suffern and Ray Hutchison. PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL



## Campus Hardware Limited

1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag

## MONTESSORI

SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON  
established 1996



- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR  
SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**

(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
www.montessori-school.ca

Business Travel - Travel Tools - Cruises - Packages - Seat Sales - Air Only



Flights



Cars



Hotels



Packages



Last Minute



Cruises

**Your NEW Local On-Line Booking Agent**

For Last Minute Bookings ...

**Book Online**

**www.royalcitytravel.com**



AIR CANADA

Ont. Reg. NBR02716341

**ROYAL CITY TRAVEL**  
ROYAL PLAZA (Norfolk & Paisley) Guelph, ON  
**763-3520** **www.royalcitytravel.com**



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

Arboretum manager Ric Jordan leads a workshop on ponds April 17 from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$35. Registration and payment are due April 3. Call Ext. 52358.

"Warblers Level I: Butterflies of the Bird World" is the focus of naturalist Chris Earley April 18 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., with a tour slated for May 10 at 6:30 a.m. Cost is \$70. Deadline for registration and payment is April 4.

The Theatre in the Trees dinner-theatre production of *The Love List* by Norm Foster continues weekends until April 26. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre presents Oswaldo (Achu) DeLeón Kantule discussing "Molas and Kuna Art From Panama" April 1 at noon.

## CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music's Thursdays at Noon concert series continues March 27 and April 3 with student soloists' days. Concerts start at 12:10 p.m. in MacKinnon 107.

The U of G Concert Winds and the Contemporary Music Ensemble present "Russia Through Western Ears" March 28 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Tickets are \$15 and \$10 and are available at 519-763-3000.

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra and the U of G Choirs conducted by Prof. Marta McCarthy perform "King David — An Oratorio" April 12 at 8 p.m. at the Church of Our Lady Immaculate. For ticket information, call Ext. 53988.

## FILM

The film series sponsored by the Spanish studies program continues March 26 with *Tesis* and *Abre los ojos* at 5:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 312.

Docurama, a film series sponsored by the U of G Library and the Central Student Association, presents *Chances of the World Changing* March 26 at 7 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307. Admission is free.

## LECTURES

The Department of Physics hosts the Canadian Association of Physicists

Lecture March 26 at 4:30 p.m. in MacNaughton 113. Pierre Savard of the University of Toronto will discuss "Looking for Dark Matters at High-Energy Colliders." A reception will follow in MacNaughton 318.

The Guelph-Waterloo Physics Institute's Distinguished Lecture features Cornell University astronomy professor Steven Squyres considering "Science Results From the Mars Exploration Rover Mission" April 1 at 4 p.m. in OVC 1714. A wine-and-cheese reception will follow at 6 p.m. in OVC 1707.

## NOTICES

The Masai Project is holding a "Climb to End AIDS" benefit dinner and trivia night March 27 to raise money for a team of people who will climb Mount Kilimanjaro in December in support of the Tsepong Clinic in Lesotho, Africa. Dinner begins at 6 p.m. in Peter Clark Hall, with the trivia contest from 7 to 10 p.m. Tickets are \$14 for students and \$20 for non-students and are available at the University Centre Information Desk.

The University community is invited to donate old running shoes to people living in a village outside Moshi, Tanzania. U of G student Adam Lewandowski is collecting shoes to take with him to Moshi, where he will be volunteering at a local school and medical clinic. All shoe sizes, including children's, will be accepted. They must be relatively clean and in decent shape. A bin will be set up inside the entrance of the Gryphon Dome where people can drop off shoes until April 10.

The Central Student Association Food Bank's stuff swap will pick up donations of clothing, food and household items on spring cleaning day March 27. Drop-off donations are also welcome. To arrange a pickup, call 519-824-6270, send e-mail to foodbank@uoguelph.ca or visit [www.csafoodbank.org](http://www.csafoodbank.org).

OPIRG-Guelph is hosting a free panel and community discussion called "Healthy Water, Healthy Growth, Healthy Guelph" March 30 from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Arboretum. Panellists are Gord Miller, environmental commissioner of Ontario; Guelph Mayor Karen Farbridge; Barry Hill, a member of the Six Nations Community-Based Water Source Protection Plan Development Committee; and Jack Imhof, national biologist for Trout Unlim-

ited Canada. Topics will include the impact of population growth on water systems and watersheds. To RSVP or for more information, call 519-824-2091 or send e-mail to [opirg@uoguelph.ca](mailto:opirg@uoguelph.ca).

## SEMINARS

The Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology's distinguished speaker series presents Jennifer Lippincott-Schwartz of the National Institutes of Health in Maryland discussing "Mechanisms for Autophagosome Biogenesis and Substrate Sequestration" March 26 at 2 p.m. in Thornbrough 1307.

The Centre for Scottish Studies presents Cynthia Neville of Dalhousie University examining "The Development of 'Trust in Writing' in Medieval Scotland, 1100 to 1300" March 27 at 1 p.m. in MacKinnon 132.

"Vesicular Stomatitis Virus: Oncolytic and Vaccine Development" is the focus of Brian Lichty of McMaster University in the Department of Pathobiology seminar series March 28 at 11 a.m. in Pathobiology 2106.

Café Scientifique, hosted by the Faculty of Environmental Sciences in partnership with the Bookshelf, continues April 1 with Prof. Bill Nickling, Geography, discussing "Dust in the Environment" at 7 p.m. in the Bookshelf Green Room.

Next up in the Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar series is Ryan Schierholtz exploring "Emerging Therapies for the Treatment of Candida Species" April 4 at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

"Mennonites and the Religious Imagination on the North American Frontier" is the topic of visiting history professor Royden Loewen of the University of Winnipeg at the Rural History Roundtable April 4 at 2:30 p.m. in the OAC boardroom. The roundtable is organized under the auspices of the Canada Research Chair in Rural History. Everyone is welcome.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services is accepting applications for its sixth annual Course re/Design Institute. The intensive four-day program runs May 13 to 16, offering faculty and instructional staff an opportunity to

work with educational developers and technical staff to create specific learning materials, course components or even entire courses. Enrollment is limited. For more details or to apply, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/tss/cdinst](http://www.uoguelph.ca/tss/cdinst). If you have questions, call Mary Wilson at Ext. 56856.

The TA professional development series continues April 1 with "A Potpourri of Learning Theories" and April 8 with an end-of-the-semester debrief and celebration. Register at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

For instructors who run online Blackboard courses, TSS offers a workshop on "Setting Up and Submitting Final Grades Using Grade Book" April 7. Visit [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca) for more information or to register.

A new-faculty luncheon focusing on research and teaching is slated for April 8. Registration is required at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

## THEATRE

The School of English and Theatre Studies presents Euripides' *The Bacchae* until March 29 in the George Luscombe Theatre. Showtime is 8 p.m. Tickets are \$8 and \$10 and are available at Ext. 53147 or at the door.

Fourth-year theatre studies student Jeffrey Dale presents *Swollen Tongues* by Kathleen Oliver April 2 to 4 at 8 p.m. in the George Luscombe Theatre. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Andrew Dyer, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, is March 28 at 2 p.m. in science complex 3317. The thesis is "The Role of the Lipid Bilayer in Substrate Binding to the P-glycoprotein Multidrug Transporter." The adviser is Prof. Frances Sharom.

The final examination of PhD candidate Richard Frank, Environmental Biology, is April 10 at 9 a.m. in Graham Hall 3301. The thesis is "Naphthenic Acids: Identification of Structural Properties That Influence Acute Toxicity." The adviser is Prof. Keith Solomon.

The final examination of Évé Bézaire Dussault, a PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental Biol-

ogy, is April 14 at 1 p.m. in Graham Hall 3301. The thesis is "Effects of Pharmaceuticals and Personal-Care Products on Benthic Invertebrates." The advisers are Profs. Paul Sibley and Keith Solomon.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The 13th annual Women of Distinction Gala runs May 8 at the River Run Centre. For tickets, visit [www.guelph.org](http://www.guelph.org) or call 519-824-5150.

Guelph-Wellington Women in Crisis hosts its annual fundraising dinner and auction March 29 at 5 p.m. at Guelph Place. For tickets, call 519-836-1110.

The Guelph Chamber Choir and the Musica Viva Orchestra conducted by Gerald Neufeld present Haydn's *The Creation* March 29 at 8 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Prof. Thomas King, English and Theatre Studies, will give a pre-concert talk at 6:45 p.m. Call 519-763-3000 for ticket information.

The Guelph Field Naturalists meet April 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Guest speaker is York University ornithologist Bridget Stutchbury, who will discuss her recent book, *Silence of the Songbirds*. Everyone is welcome.

The Edward Johnson Music Foundation is accepting applications for its 2008 scholarship and awards program for music students who are pursuing a post-secondary education. Application deadline is June 13. For information, call 519-821-7570 or visit [www.edwardjohnsonmusicfoundation.org](http://www.edwardjohnsonmusicfoundation.org).

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra led by Simon Irving presents "Masterworks and More," featuring works by Tchaikovsky, Schubert and Beethoven, March 30 at 3 p.m. at the River Run Centre. Call 519-763-3000 for tickets.

The McCrae House lecture series on the First World War continues March 27 at 7:30 p.m. with Mark Humphries of the University of Western Ontario discussing "Canadians and the Great Influenza Pandemic of 1918: Myths and Reality."

Sidonio's Custom Men's Shoppe Ltd. hosts the 2008 Spring Fashion Gala in support of Community Living Guelph Wellington April 2 at 6 p.m. at the Italian Canadian Club. For tickets, call 519-836-5077 or 519-763-2011.



**brock road nursery**  
garden centre & gift shoppe

Your innovative full service community garden centre.

Offering a convenient, information based shopping experience rich in inspirational displays and more.

OPENING SOON. For more information, spring hours & garden blog visit our website.



[www.brockroadnursery.com](http://www.brockroadnursery.com) 1858 Gordon Street, Guelph, ON, N1L 1G6 519-836-5010

AVAILABLE SPRING 2008

**Bright & Cheerful Spring Planters, New & Classic Pansies,**  
Certified Organic Seeds, First Quality Grass Seed,  
Guelph By-Law Friendly Pest Control & Fertilizers,  
Bulk Soils & Mulches For Delivery & Pickup,  
Spring Décor & More!



**INSIDE: ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE • HORSEPERSON OF THE YEAR • EARTH HOUR REFLECTS BALI**

## CFI Grants Reach Three Campuses

*Ridgetown, Kemptville and Guelph all benefit*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**T**HE UNIVERSITY of Guelph Kemptville Campus is getting a state-of-the-art animal science laboratory, and the Ridgetown Campus will be home to a new soil fertility and plant nutrition facility, thanks to the Canada Foundation for Innovation (CFI).

The national agency is also investing in two U of G projects based at the Guelph campus: a digital audio production and performance studio in the School of Fine Art and Music and a wind research laboratory in the School of Engineering.

In total, the University received more than \$620,000 as part of CFI's latest national funding allocation of \$22.5 million to 31 Canadian universities. The U of G projects are being supported by CFI's Leaders Opportunity Fund, designed to help launch the careers of new and talented faculty and to attract and retain exceptional scholars.

"Access to modern, cutting-edge equipment and facilities is imperative to research in the 21<sup>st</sup> century," says Eliot Phillipson, CFI's president and CEO. "Over the past decade,

CFI has provided thousands of world-class researchers with the tools they need to do their work."

Infrastructure is exactly what Profs. Katrina Merckies and Trevor DeVries needed to jump-start their research at the Kemptville campus. While they specialize in different areas (Merckies in equine reproduction and DeVries in dairy cattle behaviour), they share an interest in animal behaviour and a need for a specialized laboratory.

"We are excited because the CFI funds will allow us to create a multi-species, multi-use animal science research laboratory," DeVries says of the \$248,367 grant. The lab will allow them to train high-quality personnel and produce research results relevant to their respective industries, he adds.

Ridgetown Prof. Laura Van Eerd received \$125,219 to establish a facility for novel horticultural research, including maximizing water-use efficiency. It will support her ongoing research of developing and assessing approaches to optimizing nitrogen-use efficiency in

*Continued on page 10*



The Dr. William Winegard Exemplary Volunteer Involvement Award winners are, from left, staff member Amanda Bridge, new graduate Christopher Zweerman and Prof. Tim Mau with former president Bill Winegard, who presented them with an original art work by Guelph student Tori Drost.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

## Three Who "Make a Difference" Receive Winegard Awards

*Winegard volunteer involvement awards recognize U of G community members*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**U**NIVERSITY OF GUELPH political science professor Tim Mau, Ontario Veterinary College staff member Amanda Bridge and recent Guelph graduate Christopher Zweerman are the 2008 recipients of the Dr. William Winegard Exemplary Volunteer Involvement Awards.

Named after former U of G president Bill Winegard, the awards recognize members of the University community who have shown commitment to volunteering and given outstanding service to organizations in the Guelph area.

The awards were developed by the University in partnership with the United Way of Guelph and Wellington and the Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington. Winners were selected from a pool of nominees by Winegard and volunteer representatives from the University, United Way and the Volunteer Centre.

"Through their volunteer efforts, members of the University community play a significant role in strengthening the larger community of Guelph and Wellington County," says Ken Dardano, executive director of the United Way of Guelph and Wellington. "These award winners are great examples of how volunteerism is making a real difference in our community."

Mau, an assistant professor in the Department of Political Science, was honoured for being "a true believer in service above self." The selection committee said that "through his involvement with the Guelph community, Tim is generous with his talents and resources and is an outstanding citizen."

Mau has volunteered with the United Way of Guelph and Wellington for 10 years, serving as a board member and chair of the fund distribution committee. He also hosts *Politically Speaking*, a live weekly call-in show on Rogers Television dedicated to current political affairs. A member of the Rotary Club of Guelph since 2000, Mau is also the inaugural president of the Guelph Youth Basketball Association.

The selection committee said that Bridge, a staff member in the Ontario Veterinary College, "is passionate about making a difference in the community. Amanda has a strong sense of self and takes pride in being able to make a difference. Our community has greatly benefited from her commitment to helping those who are experiencing a terminal illness."

After losing her father in 2004, Bridge worked with family and friends to improve palliative care services in Guelph and Wellington County. In 2006, she and her friend Patricia Baccin created the *Fathers*

*Remembered by Daughters' Fund*, which supports Hospice Wellington and families in the community who are providing or require palliative care. Through her effort to increase this fund, Bridge has contributed more than 100 hours to a fund-raising golf tournament and through the "Candles for Care" program.

Zweerman, a 2007 environmental science honours graduate, was recognized for having great impact on the community of Guelph through a myriad of volunteer activities. He participates in activities that assist the most vulnerable members of Guelph and increase awareness of energy conservation. He has worked with Meals on Wheels, Green Impact Guelph, Project Torchlight and the Guelph Institute for the Environment.

"Chris's commitment to volunteerism has been matched by his academic prowess," said the committee. Zweerman hopes to attend medical school.

The three winners were presented with original art work created by U of G student Tori Drost that represents the concept of community. The awards were made by Winegard; Leslie MacTaggart, a Volunteer Centre board member; and Alastair Summerlee, U of G president and campaign chair for the United Way of Guelph and Wellington.

## Athletics Awards Reflect the Year's Excellence

*Gryphons excel at OUA, CIS and internationally*

BY MICHELLE WADDICK

**M**EN'S TRACK-AND-FIELD shot-putter Patrick Szpak of Lasalle, Ont., and women's cross-country and track-and-field athlete Lindsay Carson of Cambridge, Ont., were selected as U of G Athletes of the Year for the 2007-2008 season. Gryphon student athletes were honoured Mar. 31 at the Guelph Gryphons awards banquet held at the W.F. Mitchell Athletic Centre.

While the annual banquet signals the end of another varsity year at U of G, many of the athletes are still competing in national and international tournaments. In fact, Carson was unable to attend the awards cer-



Lindsay Carson

PHOTOS BY KYLE RODRIGUES

*Continued on page 4*



# Let's Accentuate the Positive

ONE OF THE GREAT THINGS about working on a university campus is the many opportunities it affords a person to find insight and perspective when you need it most.

The relative importance of things became startlingly clear to me during the April 3 Last Lecture, and I have alumnus Jeff Lozon, student Holly Shrumm and Prof. Maurice Nelischer to thank for my much-needed mental reset. Their 'last lectures' reminded me of the role of reflection, the need to emphasize successes and the importance of being open to learning from everyone and everything.

The Last Lecture is all about getting students to look ahead. We want them to embrace all of the unknowns and the adventures and opportunities the future will bring and be confident that the years spent at Guelph have aptly prepared them for whatever comes their way.

It is also a time for students to look back on how their entire experience at Guelph has shaped them to be the people they are today.

When they look back at their time here, it will be the achievements and memorable learning experiences that stand out, not the minor scrimmages and concerns. For these are the things worth remembering. I decided to apply the same philosophy to my own recollections of this academic year. That is not to say that I will disregard the challenges, but it is important to think of the things that have happened.

And our triumphs are numerous indeed. To highlight just a few:

- Guelph was named "Research University of the Year" for the fourth year in a row, and we received top marks in the 2007 University Report Card published by the *Globe and Mail*.
- The University community raised more than \$424,000 for the United Way during its annual campaign, exceeding the campus goal by more than \$24,000.
- The University also met its goal of raising \$100,000 for the Masai Project to help build an AIDS clinic in Lesotho, Africa, and launched a "Zerofootprint calculator," that allows faculty, students, staff and alumni to measure their ecological footprint and reduce their collective impact on the environment.
- Students raised more than \$63,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society during the Relay for Life and held a 14-hour stationary bike marathon to raise money toward the treatment and prevention of AIDS in Africa.
- Students also set a new national record by collecting more than 36,000 pounds of food items for the Guelph Food Bank as part of the annual Meal Exchange "Trick or Eat" event, raised \$13,200 for children by pulling massive tractors 100 feet, spent five days living outside during the winter to raise money for the Homeless, and gave up their reading week to volunteer with Project Serve and help with hurricane relief efforts and HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention.
- Six of our students and recent graduates represented Canadian youth at the United Nations climate change conference in Bali, Indonesia, and our Student Renewable Energy Group received international recognition for its initiative to improve energy efficiency on campus.
- Two of our engineering students designed mobile dental clinics that are now travelling around the Dominican Republic providing dental health care to remote under-served communities. Another team of engineers designed a single-handed braking lever for a girl with a disabled hand, an invention that earned them first place at a competition sponsored by the James Dyson Foundation, and a third team won the Social Awareness Award in the Canadian Engineering Competition.
- Student inventors also won awards and accolades for their business ideas for gluten-free beer, biodegradable plastics, portable cereal and toys that aid in infant development.
- Kate Smolina, a fourth-year biomedical sciences student, won a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship to pursue graduate studies at the University of Oxford.

It was also a monumental year for athletics. Among the many successes, the University entered the record books by becoming the first school to win back-to-back team gold medals in both women's and men's cross-country running at the Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) championships. Of course, both teams won the Ontario championships, with outstanding individual performances by Kyle Boersma, who won the men's OUA gold medal, and rookie Lindsay Carson, who earned the women's individual provincial and national titles. Head coach Dave Scott-Thomas won Coach of the Year.

Michelle Joslin was named to the CIS women's rugby squad for the 2008 Federation International du Sport World University champion-

ships, and Drew Doughty helped Canada capture gold at the International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championships and was named one of North America's top skaters.

The women's field hockey team won a silver medal at the national championships and a gold medal at the provincial games, while our varsity football team advanced to and hosted the OUA finals.

In the academic arena, physics professor Carl Svensson was one of six Canadian scientists to receive a Steacie fellowship, the most prestigious award given by the Natural Science and Engineering Research Council.

Drama professor Judith Thompson became the first Canadian to win the prestigious Susan Smith Blackburn Prize for her political play *Palace of the End*.

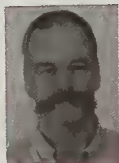
Psychology professor Leanne Son Hing was named a Fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research's Successful Societies program, and geography professor Barry Smit was appointed to a new provincial expert panel on climate change adaptation.

Chief information officer Mike Ridley has been honoured with the Ontario Library Association's Larry Moore Distinguished Service Award for his visionary work in establishing a digital library project called Knowledge Ontario.

Biomedical sciences professor Brenda Coomber was honoured by the Canadian Cancer Society for her research on colorectal cancer, geographer Rob de Lee was chosen to chair an advisory panel aimed at finding global solutions for freshwater preservation, and ecologist John Klironomos received the Humboldt Research Award, one of the top international prizes recognizing cutting-edge achievements in science.

In addition, staff member Cyndy McLean was named the honorary chair of the 13th annual Women of Distinction Awards by the YMCA-YWCA of Guelph. And just recently, OVC staff member Amanda Bridge was among the 2008 recipients of the Dr. William Winegard Exemplary Volunteer Involvement Awards, along with political science professor Tim Mau and U of G grad Christopher Zweerman.

I hope that remembering these many accomplishments will give all of us valuable insight and put things in proper perspective as we move toward the completion of another academic year. Indeed, it is our many achievements, individually and collectively, that embody the spirit of the Guelph community.



Michael H.C. McMurray  
Partner



210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com

- Are you happy with your savings and investments?
- Would you like to talk to someone about your financial future?
- With 24 years of financial experience, I can provide a professional second opinion
- Call me today for a free consultation



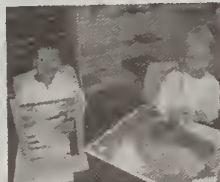
(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
DOWNTOWN GUELPH  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

519 836-3810

www.guelphmontessori.com

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts
  - Skating
  - Swimming
  - Yoga
  - Musikgarten
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers



"Within the Child Lies  
the Fate of the Future"  
Dr. Maria Montessori

## Guelph's Laminate and Hardwood Flooring Headquarters

Come in and see our  
large in-stock selection of  
laminate and hardwood flooring



55 Dawson Road, Guelph  
519-821-5744



GOURMET MARKET

Fresh from our kitchen...

HOT TAKE-OUT SUPPERS

- Turkey Breast Parmesan
- Garlic & Parmesan Mashed Potatoes
- Glazed Carrots & Cashews
- Storemade Chicken Noodle Soup
- "Fast food goes gourmet"

GUELPH POULTRY MARKET

Kortright just off the Hanlon  
Kortright Plaza

519-763-2284

Mon.-Wed. 9-7  
Thurs.-Fri. 9-8  
Sat. 9-6  
Sun. Closed

at GUELPH

Editor Barbara Chance  
b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca

Design Peter Enneson

Production Linda Graham  
l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca

Advertising Scott Anderson  
theaderson@difference.rogers.com

Director Chuck Cunningham  
c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca

At Guelph is published every two weeks  
by Communications and Public Affairs,  
Level 4, University Centre, University of  
Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.

Inquiries: 519-824-4120  
Editorial: Ext. 56580  
Distribution: Ext. 56581  
Advertising: Ext. 56580  
www.uoguelph.ca/adguide  
Classifieds: Ext. 56581  
Fax: 519-824-7962  
Website: www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph

Articles may be reprinted  
with credit to At Guelph.

Subscriptions  
\$25 (includes GST);  
\$30 outside Canada  
ISSN 08364478



#### GODDARD APPOINTED NEW HISTORY CHAIR

Prof. Peter Goddard will begin a five-year term as chair of the Department of History July 1. He has been a member of the department since 1991 and is currently associate chair.

#### B OF G SEEKS NOMINATIONS

The nomination period for four representatives to sit on the Pensions Committee of the Board of Governors closes April 11. This call is for the election of two Professional Pension Plan representatives and two Retirement Plan representatives for a two-year term commencing July 1, 2008. Nomination forms must be received by the University Secretariat, 4th floor UC, no later than 3 p.m. April 11. For nomination forms, visit <http://www.uoguelph.ca/secretariat/bog/electionbog.php>.

#### RELAY FOR LIFE NETS \$63,000

U of G students raised more than \$63,000 for the Canadian Cancer Society during the 12-hour Relay for Life, March 29. About 490 people in teams of 10 participated in this national event. Last year the University set a record, raising more than \$83,000, which is the most money any university or college has raised through a Relay for Life to date.

#### LIBRARY CONTRIBUTES TO DIGITAL REFERENCE

Statistics Canada recently launched a digital version of the Canada Year Book Historical Collection encompassing 100 years of our nation's history. First published in 1867, the Canada Year Book is the premier reference on the social and economic life of Canada and its citizens. The University of Guelph Library donated the paper copies of the publication to Statistics Canada for use in the digitization project to help make this historical collection accessible to all. The new module is available on the Statistics Canada website [http://www65.statcan.gc.ca/acbyb\\_r000-eng.htm](http://www65.statcan.gc.ca/acbyb_r000-eng.htm).

#### CME SEEKS NOMINEES

The College of Management and Economics invites applications for its Workplace Education Award, which recognizes an organization in Guelph that exhibits excellence in supporting post-secondary education. All organizations, except educational institutions are eligible. Nominations are due by April 25; details and nomination forms are available at <http://www.uoguelph.ca/cme>.

#### PET TRUST DONORS FETED

The Ontario Veterinary College's Pet Trust hosted donors and veterinarians at its annual forum March 29. Guests were treated to a behind-the-scenes look at the college to see how their donations support research and education that benefits the health of companion animals. Pet Trust has raised 25 percent of a \$10-million fundraising goal for the University of Guelph Institute for Comparative Cancer Investigation.

# To Each Her Own Taste

Performance artist looks for new experiences in the everyday

BY TERESA PITMAN

**Y**OU'RE WALKING DOWN a street in Montreal, and a woman strolling past you reaches out and lightly touches your back. You're eating at a Toronto restaurant, and one of the two women sitting at the next table spills her borscht so that some of the red liquid runs down the window beside them.

You might not notice these brief occurrences or think much about them if they caught your attention for a moment. You'd probably never think to label them art. These subtle interactions are real examples, though, of fine art professor Diane Borsato's work as a performance artist.

They are brief and seemingly insignificant for a reason. "I'm less interested in the spectacle than in the gesture," says Borsato. "I like the more subtle gestures, applying one's bones to an idea."

Her recent project, titled "A Series of Minor Incidents," shows those gestures translated into actions. For this work, she and another performance artist, Stacey Sproule, staged what Borsato calls "minor disruptive incidents" in public places around Toronto. These included spilling cream in a café, dropping a bottle of perfume in the Eaton Centre and breaking a bottle of pickled eggs in a No Frills grocery store.

Most of the people who witnessed these incidents probably had no idea that art was going on and assumed the smashed items were accidents. (Although they might have wondered why one of the two women taking part was photographing the results.) The photos of the "incidents" are included in a booklet called *Vivencia Poetica* put out by Fado Performance. The caption reads: "They (Borsato and Sproule) have been freeing things from the shackles of the containers in which they were packaged, and testing the public's reactions to seemingly accidental clumsiness."

Borsato, who joined U of G last summer, initially studied sculpture at York University, where she developed an interest in ephemeral materials such as food and plants as the basis for her work. She was intrigued by the way these materials (and the resulting art) changed over time. Gradually, her interests began to include video art and performance art, especially relational practices and interventions.

"I still do sculpture and drawing as well as performance," she adds.

In fact, another current project, to be shown at the International Manifestation of Visual Arts in Quebec, includes some of her drawings. For this one, she and other artists collaborated with musicians. The artist half of each pair created an "ex-



One of Prof. Diane Borsato's earlier art projects involved experiencing museum artifacts in new ways. Here she tastes a stuffed peacock's head. PHOTO COURTESY DIANE BORSATO

perimental score" and gave the result to the musician to interpret. Borsato's drawings show "manipulations of instruments into impossible or absurd configurations — such as a flute player holding the flute out of a car window so the wind plays the flute, or two trombones sharing a single slide." She's curious to see how her musician will interpret what she's drawn.

After graduating from York, Borsato completed her MFA at Concordia University, then did an MA in performance studies at New York University. That led to a residency in Nice, France. Since returning to Canada, she has taught at various universities, including Windsor, Concordia, York, Brock and now Guelph.

Some of her works, such as the incidents described above, take place in public, although people may be unaware of what's going on. That was the case with "Touching 1,000 People," a project that involved Borsato discreetly touching people on the streets of Montreal as she walked past them, keeping track of the numbers with a small counter.

Other performance pieces she completes privately, with photos or videos to document the event. This summer, for example, she'll be working on a project called "Not Quite How I Remember It." Artists involved will be re-creating historical artworks or events.

"I'm going to re-create three iconic performances by Joseph Beuys, Marina Abramovic and

Bonnie Sher, but I'll be restaging them in my apartment and substituting my cat for the wild animals. It will be kind of a domesticated version of the original heroic works."

Two of Borsato's other works artifacts in new ways. Usually, we look at objects such as paintings or historical relics behind glass. She had herself photographed licking paintings (for one part of the project "Public, Police and Museum") and tasting a stuffed peacock's head and an Egyptian statue, among other things, for "Artifacts in My Mouth." Documentation of many of her works can be seen on her website at [www.dianebersato.com](http://www.dianebersato.com).

It probably isn't surprising to learn that Borsato originally had an interest in theatre but realized that conventional acting — with a script and director — wasn't for her. And acting wouldn't satisfy her other interests.

"I am very preoccupied with materials. That's probably what you'd expect with someone coming from a sculpture background. My actions and performances are about moving materials around and experiencing things in an actively engaged manner. They're about ways of knowing that aren't solely based on reading texts or seeing. They're also about the ways we relate — to places and to each other."

She adds that her work "is very diverse, from discreet interventions to drawings and performative lectures. It's hard to sum it up in a short description."

## people

#### INTERNATIONAL AWARD HONOURS DWIVEDI

The International Association of Schools and Institutes of Administration (IASIA) in Brussels, Belgium, has established the O.P. Dwivedi Public Service Award to honour the retired professor's scholarly contributions in the field of comparative and development administration. The annual award will go to an internationally recognized scholar or an administrator of a government or international organization. IASIA has members from more than 90 countries; Dwivedi served as its vice-president for three terms, 1989 to 1993.

#### LYNCH TO BE HONOURED

The Council on Undergraduate Academic Advising (CUAA) has selected Prof. Stephen Lynch as the recipient of the 2008 Excellence in Undergraduate Academic Advising Medallion. He is the faculty advisor for the hotel and food administration co-op specialization in the Bachelor of Commerce degree program, a faculty member in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management and the interim director of the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management. The award will be presented at U of G's Community Breakfast in September.

#### SPARK WRITERS EARN GOLD

Owen Roberts, director of research communications, and SPARK program writers have received two gold medals from the U.S.-based Association for Communications Excellence. Students Sarah Van Engelen, received the gold medal in the category for Mars Landing's SaTEL-LITE newsletter; Christine (Eisler) Schooner wrote the text for a newsletter on DNA Barcoding that won gold in the technical publication category.

#### POETRY BOOK PUBLISHED

Philosophy professor Karen Houle has published a second book of poetry called *During*, which will be featured by Gaspereau Press at a poetry launch April 24, 6:30 p.m., at Ben McNally Books, 366 Bay Street, Toronto. Houle's first collection, *Ballast*, was nominated for the Gerald Lampert Award in 2001.

#### PROF HONOURED BY CIFAR

Psychology professor Leanne Son Hing has been named a fellow of the Canadian Institute for Advanced Research (CIFAR) Successful Societies program. CIFAR funds leading scholars so they can pursue fundamental questions about society, technology and the nature of humanity and the universe. Son Hing first joined the program as a scholar in 2005; the fellow designation is for a five-year term with an annual grant of \$40,000.

#### PROF FEATURED IN MEDIA

Prof. Julia Christensen Hughes, chair of the Department of Business, was recently featured in the *Ottawa Citizen* discussing cheating at Canadian universities. She previously conducted the first national survey of Canadian undergraduates' attitudes toward cheating.

**The next issue of *At Guelph* appears April 23.  
Copy deadline is April 15.**



# Time to Saddle Up, All You Managers

Leadership course relies on the natural instincts of horses

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**T**HE UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH will offer a novel one-day leadership course this spring using horses to teach management skills.

Called "The Horse and the Gray Flannel Suit," the course will be provided in late May by the University and an Aberfoyle-based consulting company, VelocityWorks. Participants will work with horses to learn about problem-solving, leadership, motivation and teamwork.

The program is offered through the Office of Open Learning along with human resources consultant Vicki Dickson, president of VelocityWorks.

Horses respond directly to different leadership styles. Gray Flannel is a fun, non-threatening but revealing exercise for the participants," says Dickson.

Referring to a few equine-assisted learning programs in the United States, Open Learning program development manager Melanie Prosser says: "There's a need for a different way to get people

out of the office and teach them leadership."

"Horses instinctively look to a leader for direction — it's an unconditional response. And the skills you learn handling a horse you can take right away and start using with people," says Prosser.

Up to 24 participants in this inaugural course will participate in exercises involving horses known to work especially well with people.

Prosser says there are similar programs in Canada, but none offered through distance education.

U of G offers several equine distance education courses, including equine science and equine business management certificate programs run in partnership with Equine Guelph.

"The Horse and the Gray Flannel Suit" will run May 26 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Old Orchard Farm in Mofat, Ont., located east of Aberfoyle. Participants need no riding experience.

For details, call 519-767-5000 or e-mail info@open.uoguelph.ca.

## senate

### Senate reviews U of G tuition recommendation

**S**ENATE WAS UPDATED on the University's tuition fee proposal for 2008/2009 during its April 1 meeting. The tuition recommendation needs to be set in the context of the continued fiscal challenges facing U of G, president Alastair Summerlee and Brian Pettigrew, assistant vice-president (institutional research and

planning), told members.

They said the University's budget was balanced last year using \$14.3 million of one-time revenue which will not be available in the coming year. In addition, there is no additional revenue expected to cover inflation for 2008/09.

In an attempt to keep pace with costs and avoid quality erosion, the proposal is that domestic tuition be increased to the maximum allowed under the current framework. Even with the increases, U of G tuition will remain in the middle of the pack among comparable Ontario universities. The proposed tuition increases are:

- Entering undergraduate students, 4.5 per cent (\$103 per semester),
- Entering undergraduate students, professional programs, eight per cent (\$195 to \$212 per semester),
- Continuing undergraduate students, four per cent (\$91 per semester),
- Entering graduate students, eight per cent (\$155 per semester),
- Continuing graduate students, four per cent (\$78 per semester),
- International tuition increases will only affect entering students, and the fee increases will vary

from zero to eight per cent, depending on the program.

Overall, the changes in domestic and international tuition fees are expected to generate about \$3 million to \$3.5 million in additional revenue.

Summerlee told Senate that the University is going to be considering various ways to increase revenue and reduce costs as it prepares its preliminary Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities 2008/2009 budget, which will be presented to the Board of Governors in June. The tuition framework will go before the board during its April 16 meeting.

In other business, Senators discussed a policy for awarding academic credit for co-op education work experience. Senate approved the concept in principle; a detailed policy will be presented in the fall, with consideration for implementation to follow in fall 2009.

Senate also approved new by-laws and membership for the Senate Priorities and Planning Committee.

The committee will facilitate the strategic directions for Senate and recommend priorities, with members including the president, provost, undergraduate and graduate students, the Council of Ontario Universities academic colleague and senators.

In addition, membership of the selection committee for the vice-president (research) was approved. Members are: Chris McKenna, CME dean; professors Andrew Gordon, Environmental Biology; Brian Husband, Integrative Biology; and Smaro Kamboureli, English and Theatre Studies; graduate student Michael Schumaker; staff member Mary Fowler of the Office of Research; and the dean of Graduate Studies or designate.

Senate also approved a mechanical engineering specialization, which will now be sent to the ministry for approval, and voted to phase out the joint PhD in resource and environment economics.

# Athletic Prowess Leds U of G to National Prominence

Continued from page 1

emony because she was in Scotland competing at the World Cross Country Championships.

Gryphon field hockey players Krissy Wishart, Nadia Marques, Jaclyn Butterworth and Angela Lancaster have been selected to be part of Canada's 16-member national field hockey team, which will compete May 25 to June 1 at the Federation of International Sports Universities (FISU) Games in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The FISU Games are the second-largest multi-sport games in the world after the Olympic Games, and this is the first time the sport of field hockey has been included. U of G's women's field hockey team won the Ontario University Athletics (OUA) championship this fall and captured the silver medal at the Canadian Interuniversity Sports (CIS) Championships.

In addition, Gryphon wrestlers Alan Moffat and Allison Leslie will be representing Canada at the 2008 World Junior Championships in Istanbul, Turkey, July 29 to Aug. 3. Both Gryphon rookies, they won in their respective weight categories during the Canadian Junior Wrestling Championships, which were held on campus March 28.

## Gryphon Awards

Szpak, a third-year sociology student, holds the U of G record in shot put and helped the Gryphons win their first CIS championship title. He captured gold at the McGill University and CanAM meet, was crowned the OUA champion and capped off the year with a silver medal at the CIS championships, earning him recognition as an OUA

All-Star and All-Canadian.

Carson, a first-year biological engineering student was a leader on the CIS champion teams in cross country and track and field. In cross country, she was both OUA and CIS champion and was named Rookie of the Year and MVP by both. A First-Team All-Canadian, she continued her excellence later in the season on the indoor track winning three OUA silver medals in the 1,000-metre, 1,500-metre and 4x800-metre events and was named the OUA Rookie of the Year. At the CIS track championships, she won a gold in the 3,000-metre, silver in the 1,000-metre and bronze in the 1,500-metre event and was named the CIS Rookie of the Year and

First-Team All-Canadian.

Carson also received U of G's Dr. Mary Beverley-Burton Female Rookie of the Year award.

Brae Anne McArthur of Sarnia, who received the President's Trophy as Female Student-Athlete, is completing the master's portion of a PhD in child clinical psychology. She was the CIS pentathlon bronze medalist, OUA high jump bronze medalist, OUA pentathlon silver medalist and an OUA All-Star.

Adam Slomer of London, Ont., who received the President's Trophy as Male Student-Athlete, is on the dean's honour list as an undergraduate in biomedical science and is this year's recipient of the Grey Memorial Scholarship and the Wildman

Trophy for his contributions as a receiver on the varsity football team.

The W.F. Mitchell Sportsman Awards went to Michelle Moody of Newmarket, and Ferdinando Serpe of Mississauga.

Moody is a three-time CIS high jump silver medalist, multiple OUA medalist and the U of G record-holder in high jump and long jump. She has been an athletics spokesperson on numerous occasions and is a member of the athletics facility steering committee. Serpe is a two-time OUA All-Star in soccer, and this season he was the top Gryphon goal scorer with five goals in 13 games and was named the OUA Community Service Award winner for athletic, academic excellence and community contributions.

The Shirley Peterson Award for most-improved female athlete went to Kristine Wishart of Hamilton, who has been a member of the varsity field hockey team for three years. She has been recognized as an OUA First-Team All-Star and CIS All-Canadian in each season. Recipient of the Don Cameron Award for most-improved male athlete was Justin Dunk, a third-year football quarterback from Guelph. He went from starting four games in his first year to starting every game this past season and was named a second team OUA All-Star. He has already broken two all-time Gryphon career records: offensive yards with 6,676 and most yards passing with 5,630.

With Dunk's leadership, the football Gryphons won two play-off games before ending their season in defeat to Western at the Yates Cup, which was hosted by U of G.



Zoltan Tanke

First-year wrestler Alan Moffat of Milton received the Scott Yanchus Male Rookie of the Year award. He was also named the OUA Rookie of the Year and an OUA All-Star after winning a gold medal at the provincial championships. He also took home a CIS bronze medal.

## Coaching good-bye

Also at the athletics award banquet, Gryphon track-and-field coach Zoltan Tanke was presented with the Dr. John T. Powell award. Athletics director Tom Kendall calls Tanke one of the true legends in Canadian track and field coaching. He began his involvement in the sport as an athlete and was a three-time Olympian for his native Hungary before transferring his abilities to coaching. He joined the Gryphon program in 1997 and has built the Gryphons into the strongest jumps school in the CIS, says Kendall. "After 60 years of coaching, he is retiring. It is fitting that in his final year at Guelph, both the women and men brought home their first CIS titles."



Tom Kendall, left, and Patrick Szpak.



# Pet Trust Offers Hope

BY TERESA PITMAN

"I THINK WHAT WE OFFER is hope," says Andrew Moore, Pet Trust program assistant at OVC. "When people have lost a pet they cared about, knowing that they are supporting work that could help another pet in the future gives them hope and brings them some comfort."

For the past 22 years, the Pet Trust program has raised funds to support research into the health problems of pets, primarily dogs and cats. Moore joined the program five years ago after graduating from U of G with a BA in management economics and a minor in marketing management.

"I'd been exposed to various aspects of fundraising while I was a student," says Moore. "I was a student alumni ambassador and got involved in the programs at Alumni House."

At Pet Trust, he still works closely with staff in Alumni Affairs and Development. "They handle the issuing of tax receipts and processing donations," he says. "That gives me more time to make connections with the people who contribute to Pet Trust—the vet clinics, the pet owners, the companies."

Pet Trust is about love, plain and simple. That funny-looking, ragamuffin mixed-breed puppy may not be worth more than a few dollars, but to the owner who loves that dog, he's priceless.

Moore's a pet-owner himself—he has two cats named Sophie and Noelle—and knows the power of that kind of love. "The human-animal bond is so strong," he says. "People see pets as part of their fami-



Andrew Moore shares some office time with Martha, one of OVC's resident cats.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

lies, and if that pet gets sick, they want the same level of care that they would for any other family member. Pet Trust is about making that possible."

Here's how it works. People from across Canada make donations to Pet Trust. They can select how their money will be used—for studies involving dogs, cats, cancer in companion animals, or where there is the greatest need. OVC researchers—faculty and graduate students—present their proposals to an evaluation committee that awards research grants from Pet Trust funds.

"There are usually many more proposals than we can fund," says

Moore. "In fact, we just went through a research competition and had to turn away as many proposals as we were able to fund."

Some recent studies have investigated potential spinal cord injury treatment for dogs, urinary tract infections in dogs and MRI results as a predictor of response to cancer therapy. Moore points out that these research studies are not only expected to yield benefits for dogs and cats, but also for human health.

"Veterinary medicine is at the intersection of human, animal and environmental health," he says. "We

learn from each other."

That collaborative learning is at the heart of Pet Trust's current big project: raising \$10 million to build an animal cancer centre at OVC.

"The centre will be part of a national research program," Moore says.

"Because we are a referral centre for many vet clinics now, we already see a lot of cancer cases. The new facility will allow us to advance knowledge and possible care for animals."

Moore says many donors first learn about Pet Trust from their veterinarian when they lose a much-loved dog or cat. If they make

a donation in memory of their pet, they receive a letter of condolence from Pet Trust. "That can be comforting to people who have lost a pet they were attached to," says Moore. "Their friends and family sometimes don't acknowledge what they are going through, but we recognize how important that bond is."

In addition to memorial donations, Pet Trust receives regular funding from donors who are, as Moore puts it, "deeply committed to pet health."

He adds: "There are so many charities competing for donations that people literally have hundreds of options, and as a result, they are more aware of what they are looking for in a charity. I think it helps that they can come here and see where the money is going; see the actual physical space, meet the researchers and ask questions."

Some contributors organize events and then donate the money they raise, such as the Smiling Blue Skies Cancer Fund group, which organizes fundraising walks for people and their dogs. Smiling Blue Skies was the registered name of "Blues" a golden retriever who died of lymphoma in 2001. This year, eight Blue Skies walks are planned across Canada.

Moore feels considerable satisfaction about his role in supporting OVC research. "Pet Trust makes a significant contribution to the work being done, and there is a lot happening at OVC in the next few years, new research in the works. It's an exciting time to be here."

For more information about Pet Trust and how to donate, go to [www.pettrust.ca](http://www.pettrust.ca).

## Ten New Projects Receive LEF Grants

*Funded projects support new learning experiences and innovation*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

TEN PROJECTS aimed at strengthening undergraduate engagement and academic success at U of G have received a total of \$152,960 from the University's Learning Enhancement Fund (LEF).

Created in 2006, the fund supports initiatives arising from the integrated planning process and the curriculum renewal process. "We are actively engaged in enhancing and improving the undergraduate learning environment at Guelph and the LEF grants are a critical component of the process," says Serge Desmarais, associate vice-president (academic).

LEF grant proposals can come from faculty or staff in any college, department or academic support unit that reports to the provost. Projects must strengthen undergraduate teaching and learning in demonstrable ways. They must also support learning experiences that cross departmental and college boundaries and pursue systemic innovation, re-

newal and experimentation.

In total, 27 proposals were submitted, compared to 18 in the previous year. "It was a very competitive process, there was a high level of quality and originality in all of the submissions," says Desmarais.

"We were also looking for sustainable ideas, ones that have the potential to grow and be supported financially beyond the initial grant," he says.

For example, fine art and music Prof. Christian Giroux's project is the result of a relationship he has been developing with the School of Engineering over the past few years. He collaborated with John Phillips, a Guelph design engineer, to produce a new sculpture and printmaking course that allow students to create 3-D works of art by producing designs with a software program and uploading them to a 3-D printer, which produces scaled versions of the designs.

Giroux will use his new \$17,850 LEF grant to expand the project, ac-

quiring new hardware that will allow students to model and manipulate digital forms using manual or 'haptic' carving devices. "It will provide more graceful bridge between fine art training and sensibilities with engineering facilities and know how," he says.

OVC Prof. Brigitte Brisson, Clinical Studies, will use her \$26,965 grant to develop a multimedia web-based teaching tool that will allow students to learn veterinary surgery.

"Teaching surgery to veterinary students is time consuming and involves skills that are not easily taught or mastered in the classroom," Brisson writes in her proposal. "Laboratory sessions are costly and textbooks are not an appropriate resource for practical skills."

The online tool is a cost-effective way to share knowledge, she says. The program will be able to be accessed on the Internet by any number of students at a time. It will demonstrate the steps involved in

performing both basic and more advanced surgical procedures using a series of still images, text and video clips. Among other things, it will include tips on "what to do" and "what not to do." Students will also be involved in the project, including assisting with the development of material for the website.

Other LEF projects for 2008/09:

- Prof. Andrea Buchholz, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, \$9,910 to engage students in nutritional assessment research.
- Prof. Lori Jones, Chemistry, \$9,500 to test and evaluate the use of 'clickers' as an educational technology tool.
- Prof. Annette Nassuth, Molecular and Cellular Biology, \$31,885 to develop an innovative approach to examining environmental stresses in plant biology.
- Chantal Phillips, Ridgetown Campus, \$18,800 to develop numeracy, information literacy and writing skills at the Ridgetown Learning Centre.

- Prof. Glen Pyle, Biomedical Sciences, \$10,000 to develop a 'physiolab' where students are both subjects and data analysts.
- Michael Ridley, Chief Information Officer, \$8,500 to work with faculty and staff to enrich the university's numeracy and quantitative reasoning repository.
- Prof. Byron Sheldrick, Political Science, \$9,900 to develop student community internship opportunities.
- Prof. Jeji Varghese, Sociology and Anthropology, \$9,650 to help students learn methodology as part of a real community research experience.

LEF grant recipients must turn in a final report on their activities and project outcomes, and the projects must be resubmitted to be considered for subsequent funding. The deadline to apply for 2009/2010 LEF funding is Jan. 31, 2009. For more information, visit the website <http://www.lef.uoguelph.ca/funded.html>.



# Earth Hour Reflects Lessons of Bali

*Candle-lit dinner brought discussion of intergenerational equity to climate change debate*

BY DEREK PIEPER

**C**ANADIANS RECENTLY joined thousands around the world by dimming their lights March 29 for the celebration of "Earth Hour," an event designed to increase awareness about climate change by focussing on a simple act of energy conservation. I suspect that many Canadians participated as I did, observing Earth Hour over a candlelight dinner with good company.

For a Canadian youth delegate to the 2007 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Bali, Indonesia, Earth Hour was an appropriate time to reflect on lessons learned from the Bali meeting of world leaders.

It is not often one has the opportunity to participate in a process that directly impacts over 180 nations around the world. But in December, one student and seven recent graduates of the University of Guelph travelled half-way around the world to attend the UN conference. We joined more than 200 global youth in Bali to advocate for the political leadership necessary to achieve international consensus on one of the most pressing issues facing our generation.

The eight of us with U of G connections formed a significant portion of the overall Canadian Youth Delegation (CYD) to the conference. Clearly, the University's reputation as an environmental leader is not restricted to local projects such as the Energy Conservation Initiative that was widely supported by students in a referendum last year. The 32-person CYD included representatives from every Canadian province and one territory, and the team was composed of students, trained journalists, experts.

The overall youth message to the United Nations was that we needed a "Bali Breakthrough," an international agreement whereby countries would acknowledge the threat posed by climate change, use science to inform their mitigation policies and emission reduction targets, and ultimately take action to prevent our generation from inheriting the worst of the environmental changes predicted for the future.

Attending the conference was an overwhelming experience. As a first-time youth delegate to a UN meeting, I knew that it was going to be easy to get confused by a mountain of process and procedure, but my experience on the U of G Senate helped overcome that. Finding your way at an international meeting, let alone making a difference in the proceedings, is a daunting challenge. First of all, there is the sheer number of people attending



These Guelph grads were part of the Canadian Youth Delegation at the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Indonesia in December. Clockwise from 3 o'clock: Jennie McDowell, B.Sc. '07; current student Aiden Abram; David Noble, B.Sc. '00 and M.Sc. '03; Trevor Bennett, BA '07; and Adam Scott, BA '07.

PHOTO BY ROSS OAVISON-PILON

the meeting to contend with. The Bali meeting was the largest climate change conference to date. More than 10,000 people passed through the doors as delegates, members of the press, NGO leaders, and research and industry representatives. The awkward acronyms and simultaneous translation in multiple languages also made meetings hard to follow.

The Canadian Youth Delegation delivered our message in face-to-face meetings with the environment ministers for Ontario, Quebec and Alberta and the leader of the official opposition, Stéphane Dion. The environment ministers for the United Kingdom and Indonesia also were interested to hear the youth

perspective, as was Yvo De Boer, the head UN climate diplomat. The level of access to decision makers was remarkable. Canadian youth did meet with Environment Canada representatives on the official government delegation, but were unfortunately refused a meeting with Canada's Environment Minister John Baird.

The Canadian Youth Delegation experienced a deep sense of disappointment about the Canadian government's performance on the international stage. For youth, climate change is of great significance as it is an issue of intergenerational equity. Many youth are concerned about the impact on our future of the decisions made (or not made) at conferences such as Bali.

Fortunately, many people at the University of Guelph agree that climate change matters. Students, by way of the 2007 energy retrofit referendum, are contributing \$4.3 million over the next 12 years towards energy conservation projects on campus. The University is matching these funds, and staff, faculty and alumni are also making significant contributions to this initiative.

The University recently hosted the annual "Think Big" conference on the topic of "Ethics and Climate Change," with moderator David Anderson, director of the Guelph Institute for the Environment and former federal minister of the environment. Through events such as these, the University is making an important contribution towards addressing climate change by helping to define the underlying ethical arguments that stand in the way of taking action on climate change. Those issues include intergenerational equity and determining who bears the ultimate responsibility for reducing polluting emissions; by how much and how quickly.

As I dined in the darkness during Earth Hour, I thought about the fundamental principle at the heart of the UN negotiation process for climate change mitigation: we all have a common but differentiated responsibility to reduce the harmful impacts of climate change. In other words, if we all do what is within our means — be that turning off a light or reducing energy consumption at the University — we can resolve the climate crisis.

Derek Pieper was a member of the Canadian Youth Delegation to the Bali United Nations Climate Change Conference ([www.cydali.org](http://www.cydali.org)) and is the outgoing CSA Academic Commissioner at the University of Guelph. For more information about the Bali meeting, visit [www.unfccc.int](http://www.unfccc.int).

## Canada Could Do More to Ensure Water Security

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**A**FIRST-EVER ASSESSMENT of Canada's water allocation systems by Prof. Rob de Loë, Geography, has revealed the country needs to do more to ensure our water security.

Despite Walkerton, climate change and recent water export controversies pushing concerns about Canada's water supply to the forefront, an evaluation of every province and territory shows that most haven't deliberately put in place measures needed to address threats such as water scarcity and environmental flows, says de Loë.

"In Canada, we are still caught up in the myth of abundance. We think we have lots of water, so what's the

problem? But the truth is we are not immune to water scarcity. Shrinking water supplies are a problem across the globe, and in Canada we aren't dealing with it very well," he says.

Funded by the Walter and Duncan Gordon Foundation, the two-year study was just released on the Guelph Water Management Group's website.

De Loë found that while some jurisdictions in Canada are gathering ecological information needed to incorporate protection of the environment into current and future water allocation decisions, there is considerable room for improvement. And although water conservation is recognized as a concern, provinces and territories need to do more to build conservation into their allocation

decisions, he said. Water conservation innovations that do exist are happening at the municipal level in most provinces and territories.

The same is true when it comes to anticipating the impact of climate change on future water supplies, he added. It's a recognized concern, but few provinces and territories have directly incorporated this concern into their water-allocation systems.

"Historical patterns and observed trends continue to guide our water-allocation decisions despite the fact that these patterns and trends are not likely to be representative of future conditions due to global warming," says de Loë.

The study also found that many jurisdictions have clearly defined allocation rules, but monitoring and

enforcing actual water use doesn't occur satisfactorily in all parts of Canada.

He adds: "Monitoring is essential because it helps us know whether or not we're addressing the water security challenges that exist."

Canada's water supply has already faced numerous threats over the past decade, says de Loë. "Severe droughts have been experienced in the Prairies, stress on aquatic ecosystems is evident in many watersheds, and growth and development are putting pressure on water resources in many parts of the country. All of these current threats will simply magnify with climate change."

He says Canada needs to strike a balance between allocating water for residents and industry and still sus-

taining a healthy environment.

"Instead of allocating water entirely for human demands, we need to ensure that water is available to sustain healthy aquatic environments. Canada needs to learn from the experiences of countries like Australia, which is trying to meet environmental needs before most human needs are met."

The study recommends there be national dialogue on water allocation in Canada that includes representatives from First Nations, non-governmental organizations, municipalities and the federal and provincial governments.

For a copy of the report, visit the Guelph Water Management Group website, [www.uoguelph.ca/gwmg/gordon\\_WS.htm](http://www.uoguelph.ca/gwmg/gordon_WS.htm).



# Horseperson of the Year

*Equine Guelph manager has been working with horses since age five*

By Andrew Vowles

**G**AYLE ECKER WAS ABOUT FIVE when she fell off a horse for the first time. She was at a riding stable with her parents when her horse reared up and threw her. Better luck next time — or maybe not. The second horse she tried to ride soon afterward rolled, and again the youngster ended up in the dirt. "You'd think I would have quit," says Ecker, laughing.

Not likely. She showed almost as much stamina as some of those endurance horses she would one day end up shadowing during 100-mile marathon races in France and Dubai.

Now 49, she's still riding — and doing plenty of other things equine, from teaching and running programs to promoting research and helping run equestrian teams. Early this year, those multiple roles were recognized when the senior manager of Equine Guelph was among 15 people nominated for 2007 Horseperson of the Year by readers of *Western Horse Review* in a special edition to mark the publication's 15th year.

"I'm just thrilled that I was nominated," says Ecker in the February issue of the magazine. "It makes me feel very humble because I have a lot of people who work with me... we have an amazing team."

She's talking about Equine Guelph, which since 2003 has offered award-winning online programs for horse owners and people working with horses around the world. The equine science certificate program she started five years ago has drawn more than 1,000 people, with participants coming from outside the country as well as from every Canadian province and territory except one.

"We don't have any students from Nunavut — there aren't too many horses up there."

Working with the Office of Open Learning, Equine Guelph has also introduced a certificate program in equine business management and an equine studies diploma. The curriculum is intended to deliver evidence-based knowledge that, among other things, will help the horse industry ensure better horse care and welfare, save money and introduce more sustainable practices.

The magazine also cited Ecker's role in creating EquiMania! This online and travelling road show delivered with communications and programs officer Susan Raymond, teaches children how to look after horses properly. In the past month alone, the show has travelled to the Can-Am Horse Show in London and the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair.

"We want to get more kids into horses and have an opportunity to be exposed to horses," says Ecker. "I was lucky. So many kids lack that."

She hopes to add educational programs, particularly if plans unfold to build a new Ontario Equine Centre near Guelph. Organizers, including retired professor Alan Meek, former dean of the Ontario Veterinary College, are eyeing a 600-acre property



to house research, training, sales and veterinary services. Ecker says that site would offer an ideal location for Equine Guelph's current curriculum as well as new possibilities, such as a jockey or trainer program.

Those educational programs were unthought-of when she was growing up. But that didn't stop her from indulging her horse mania, from the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair to the CNE.

She and her sister grew up in Exeter, where they belonged to a 4-H Club and learned to ride on a country property and during summer holidays at a family cottage on Lake Huron. Referring to her first horse — a dappled Shetland pony — she says: "Pogo and I grew up together. He taught me a lot about horses."

She spent more than one night on foal watch during spring and early summer, sleeping in the barn, getting up every two hours. Ecker was 16 and alone in the barn when she had to rearrange a foal stuck in the womb before it could be born properly; it went on to become a standardbred racer.

Then there was the horse that thought it was half-human. Its mother died giving birth, but regular bottle feedings helped the foal survive. The animal eventually grew up to be a racer, but it could never quite figure out whether it was a horse or a human, says Ecker.

"We always said he had an identity crisis because he preferred spending time with people."

The family started riding quarter horses and graduated to Arabians. From preteens to late teens, the girls rode and showed their way to top honours, including Ecker's runner-up champ for Eastern Canada in one class. "We were typical show rats going to horse shows every single weekend," she says.

After high school, she studied exercise physiology and biol-

ogy at the University of Western Ontario and taught around London for a few years. From there, she went on to teach in Humber College's equine program, then got a job at what was then the Equine Research Centre, which opened at U of G in 1988.

That led to a master's degree in human biology, studying fluid and electrolyte balance and heat stress in horses with Prof. Mike Lindinger. "I like to claim that I got him interested in horse research," she says.

It was that interest that eventually led her to a marathon racecourse in Dubai. She has worked three times as assistant chef-d'équipe with the Canadian Endurance Team during 100-mile races — what Ecker calls variously the marathon or the Tour de France of the horse world.

In endurance races, horse and rider must complete the marathon course within 24 hours (the best teams take 10 hours or less). Rather than ride flat out for the duration, the horses have to make regular pit stops along the way for a veterinarian's once-over.

Ecker has served as part of

competing with the endurance team in France, Spain and Dubai. A full entourage shadows the racers, meeting them for checks and then leaping ahead to the next stop. It's been her job to top up the horses' fluids with the equine equivalent of Gatorade.

That racing brings out the researcher in her. Through her studies, she was able to use horse weights and blood samples not just to tell whether the animals were OK but also to predict how well they'd fare overall. "We knew which would be the top horse just based on blood and weight data."

Back at U of G, she helps track down funding for the Equine Guelph research committee, which approves support for faculty working on horse studies. That group has given money to several Guelph researchers, including Profs. Jeff Thomason and Dean Betts, Biomedical Sciences, for studies of stem-cell therapy to cure lameness and hoof-track interactions.

Ecker is fascinated by horses' racing abilities, including their physical adaptations. "I've always admired the horse as an athlete." An equine spleen, for instance, stores huge amounts of red blood cells that are released directly into the bloodstream during exercise. "That's natural blood doping that humans would love to do," she says. (Some human runners have even tried it, with fatal results.) Horses' muscles also allow them to stock lots of glycogen for energy, more or less like carbohydrate loading in runners.

Her own riding occurs at a more sedate pace now. She and her husband have two horses — a palomino mare named Jewel and Onyx, a black quarter horse — on their 36-acre home in Puslinch, mostly for Sunday riding.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABER

• Renovating

• Allergies

**Fresh Start**

• Moving

• New Baby

**CARPET & FURNITURE CLEANING**

Nobody Cleans Better Than Steamatic

**STEAMATIC**  
total cleaning & restoration  
Trusted Since 1968

**AIR DUCT CLEANING**  
Breathe cleaner air  
Call Us 519-836-7340



Valerie Poulton



# Sea Urchins and Butterflies Share a Mystery

Swiss scientist, who recently morphed into a U of G faculty member, studies metamorphosis in marine organisms

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**B**UTTERFLIES DO IT. Frogs do it. So do sea urchins. But just how and why metamorphosis happens in some animals and insects is still a mystery to biologists. One scientist who has recently morphed into a U of G faculty member hopes to find some answers right here.

Prof. Andreas Heyland, Integrative Biology, is fascinated by the shape-shifting tricks some creatures perform as they change from juvenile to adult. How does that caterpillar become a moth? What enables that tadpole to turn into a frog? And what's the secret of that sea urchin — especially that sea urchin and related marine species that also undergo metamorphosis?

Heyland studies how marine organisms perform this life-changing alteration. He's particularly interested in mollusks and echinoderms. The latter are spiny-skinned invertebrates — sea urchins, starfish, crinoids, brittle stars, sand dollars and sea cucumbers — such as the ones he'll maintain in the Hagen Aqualab's saltwater tanks here on campus.

Part of him is still pursuing the kinds of basic questions that arose during his own life-changing graduate studies on the Pacific coast. But he also hopes to learn something that might eventually help people suffering from neurodegenerative Parkinson's.

"My work might apply to human health," says Heyland. Take the sea slug, a mollusk that undergoes metamorphosis. Equally important, its simple brain — containing fewer than 10,000 neurons — has long made it a model for understanding how the brain works, or doesn't work. His re-

search may help to tease out some of those mysteries even as he works to understand how form-changing occurs in these animals.

Why these animals? Mostly, says Heyland, because we still understand very little about the mechanisms underlying metamorphoses in these groups.

"Most of what we know about metamorphosis comes from insects and amphibians. We don't know a lot about how metamorphosis in marine organisms works generally," he says, adding that he expects those sea urchins in the Aqualab can "teach us about the many different ways metamorphosis can work."

Not that scientists lack ideas about why this drastic transition occurs. While the marine habitat is vastly different from a terrestrial habitat, Heyland says many experts think life cycles in marine organisms are driven by mechanisms similar to those that prompt metamorphosis in some land animals. These organisms are looking for ways for adults and youngsters — the latter produced in huge numbers — to avoid competing for food, living places and other resources.

Metamorphosis separates parents and offspring. Tadpoles live and eat in the water while frogs rely largely on land. For sea urchins, the larvae inhabit the water column as plankton while the adults remain on the bottom. Most important, they avoid tripping over each other for the same resources.

It's more complicated than that, Heyland cautions. For instance, that explanation doesn't account for the fact that some of these creatures disperse via much more direct development. The same complications arise



Prof. Andreas Heyland is building a research program that focuses on the genes and hormones involved in metamorphosis. He says we know that hormones are central to this process — steroids in insects and thyroid hormones in amphibians — but we need to learn more about how they work in marine life such as echinoderms, whose bodies lack the important organs used to synthesize these components in amphibians. In the long-term, his studies may help us understand how thyroid hormones work, or not, in other animals, including people.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

in other creatures, including many insects. "It will be difficult for scientists to answer why metamorphosis evolved," he says.

Besides nurturing these invertebrates in the Aqualab for his research, Heyland plans to share their mysteries with students. Next year, he'll be teaching a course on devel-

opment. For that, he plans to bring echinoderms into the teaching lab, where students can set up an experiment of their own — "fertilization in a beaker," as he calls it — to observe spawning and subsequent embryo development.

On the computer monitor in his office, he shows off a photo of the slightly otherworldly larval form, resembling a streamlined if fanciful aircraft. "They're pretty cool, they look a bit from outer space," he says, adding that he does much of his own photography, both under the microscope and in the field.

In his science complex research lab, Heyland plans to focus on genes and hormones involved in meta-

morphosis. Hormones are central to this process — steroids in insects and thyroid hormone in amphibians — but he says we need to learn more about how they work in marine life.

He will study hormonal signaling systems, including how these systems work in echinoderms, whose bodies lack the important organs used to synthesize these components in amphibians. He adds that these studies may help us understand how thyroid hormones work, or not, in other animals, including people.

That work will also involve genetics, including cloning and gene knockout techniques, or genes that are selectively disabled to learn about their specific function during development. He'll also try to figure out how genes work together and which ones are more important in larval development.

Heyland's own academic metamorphosis happened during his grad studies. After completing a B.Sc. in his native Switzerland, he went to the United States. He took two summer courses at Friday Harbor Labs, run by the University of Washington on San Juan Island between the mainland and Vancouver Island.

Earlier in Europe, he'd spent some field time at a marine biology lab in southern France. But it was that experience in Washington that uncovered the diversity of marine organisms and the big questions about evolution and development. "That's where the fascination came in. That was the main trigger for me," he says.

In addition to taking those two courses, he worked with a scientist there who ended up being his PhD supervisor at the University of Florida. After completing that degree in 2004, Heyland did a post-doc in Florida that ended with his arrival here in Guelph.

He hadn't known much about U of G earlier, but says his department is living up to its name, with faculty and students working together on related questions. He also keeps up his connections south of the border; early this spring, he began a three-month stint back at Friday Harbor.



**HUMBER**

School of Applied Technology



In just two semesters at Humber, you could upgrade your degree with a postgraduate certificate in

**Wireless Telecommunications,  
Supply Chain Management  
or Project Management.**

**Make technology work for you.**

Apply now and be well on your way to a successful career in technology.

[humber.ca/makeitwork](http://humber.ca/makeitwork)

## You Can Play The Name Game

**U**OF G IS ROLLING OUT a new integrated e-mail and calendar program that needs a name: Something short but catchy and easy to remember.

"This is a campus-wide system that will be a huge enhancement to WEBmail and will allow users to drag and drop messages from their inbox into their calendars, share appointments, book meeting rooms, and a whole lot more," says project manager Gerrit Bos, Computing and Communications Services. The system will eventually phase out WEBmail and Oracle Calendar and

should dramatically decrease the need for external e-mail platforms such as Thunderbird and Outlook Express, he adds.

All students, faculty and staff are invited to help name the new system. Go to [www.uoguelph.ca/nameIT](http://www.uoguelph.ca/nameIT) to enter your suggestion before April 30. Campus-wide voting begins mid-May; a University of Guelph sweatshirt will be awarded to the person who submits the winning entry.

Find out more about the new e-mail and calendar system at [www.Uoguelph.ca/ccs/about/projects/email\\_cal/index.shtml](http://www.Uoguelph.ca/ccs/about/projects/email_cal/index.shtml).



## DOUG JOY

Faculty member in the School of Engineering since 1988

"This has been the best winter we've had in years," says Prof. Doug Joy. The only thing this ski enthusiast likes better than watching the white flakes fall from the sky is speeding downhill on the stuff — or reminiscing about his last run down the slopes with friends.



Doug Joy

During the winter, most of his spare time is devoted to skiing. He recently spent a week visiting his daughter, who works — where else? — at a ski resort in Idaho, and he makes frequent visits to Blue Mountain to ski with friends. This season, though, he's been skiing on the gentler slopes at Chicopee as he teaches his three-year-old grandson how to manoeuvre in the snow.

"I'm looking forward to getting my grandson even more involved in skiing," he says. "He loves it. So far, his favourite parts are wearing noisy boots and riding on the chair lift."

For Joy, the best skiing of the year is yet to come. "In May, to mark the end of the ski season, my friends and I will head out to British Columbia and ski on the back-country glaciers. There are no lodges, no ski lifts, and you're 7,000 feet above sea level. You have to walk up to be able to ski down. As we say, you have to 'earn your turn.'"

The engineer says his passion for skiing comes from his love of the outdoors. Skiing lets him enjoy being outside in the winter, and he values the sense of freedom he feels as he skis in the back country.

"When we're not actually skiing, we talk about where we went skiing last and where we plan to go next time," he adds.

During the summer, Joy copes with the lack of snow by going on canoe and kayak trips. These trips are the one time that talking about skiing is forbidden, at his wife's insistence.

"My favourite trip was sea kayaking off Vancouver Island," he says. "It's just stunningly beautiful there. It's another way to enjoy the outdoors."

## JASON WIERENGA

Fourth-year student in horticultural science

Jason Wierenga comes by his love of horticulture naturally. His grandfather, who emigrated from Holland (in fact, all four of Wierenga's grandparents are from Holland) worked in the City of Toronto's greenhouses when he first came to Canada. A generation later, Wierenga's father and uncle bought a farm near Fenwick, Ont., where they still live today. The family grows houseplants and tropical foliage.



Jason Wierenga

"I was born into it," says Wierenga. "I can't see myself doing anything else."

Not only do his classes involve horticulture, but so do his after-hours activities. Since arriving at U of G, he's been collecting seeds from various trees on campus and planting them on his parents' farm, just as a hobby.

"I plant them in what used to be a vegetable garden and is now a tree and vegetable garden. When they get

big enough, I move them out of the garden and plant them somewhere else on the property. I have about 15 of them in the garden right now."

Wierenga is also on the executive of U of G's Horticulture Club and serves as greenhouse co-ordinator. "I picked that role because it has the least paperwork and is the most fun." He works with campus greenhouse staff to get space set aside for club members to grow plants such as the Easter lilies they sell during the week before Easter.

"Leading up to College Royal we had a lot of plants as well," he says. "We like to have a big display, so we grow some and buy the rest." He would visit the greenhouse daily to water the plants, remove dead leaves and check that there were no problems.

Although Wierenga intends to eventually work with his family, his summer job will have him growing plants about 20 minutes from home. "I'm in no hurry to go back to the farm yet, he says. "There are lots of things to be learned working for someone else."

## TANIA ARCHBOLD

Staff member in Animal and Poultry Science

Tania Archbold was inspired to become a volunteer Leader with La Leche League Canada when she met other new mothers who were having difficulties with breastfeeding. "I had such a positive experience breastfeeding my two sons. It made me feel really sad to talk to so many women who had been given bad advice and had problems and who were really disappointed that breastfeeding hadn't worked out," she says.



Tania Archbold

Archbold adds: "La Leche League is not here to convert people who don't want to breastfeed. We just want to help mothers who do want to breastfeed by giving them support and encouragement and up-to-date information."

La Leche League Canada is part of an international organization of experienced breastfeeding mothers who hold monthly meetings and provide help to other mothers over the phone and through home visits. Although

first son, Jackson (now six), Archbold began attending meetings regularly when her second son, Thomas (now four), was a couple of months old. Eighteen months ago, she began the training process to become a leader and completed it in September. For the past seven months, she's been one of several leaders facilitating the meetings in Guelph, which are open to pregnant women, new mothers and mothers with older babies.

In between, Archbold takes phone calls from women who have questions or concerns. "I get about one call a week," she says.

While she enjoys the meetings, Archbold adds that her favourite part is helping mothers one on one. "I like it when I can meet with a mother in her home. It's more casual, and we can take our time. I'm happy if I can help the mother feel a little better even if we don't totally solve everything. Sometimes it's just letting her know that whatever is happening is normal."

Another aspect she appreciates: this is volunteer work that fits in around the needs of her growing family and her work. "This is a great way for me to give back," she says.

# HR Professionals Unknowingly Jeopardize Interview Process

Prof finds wide media interest in research

EVER SINCE WORD GOT OUT about his study on the uneven playing field most job candidates encounter during interviews, Prof. Geoff Smith has been busy answering queries from the Canadian national media.

He made the trek from Guelph to Toronto twice in one week — first to appear live on CTV's *Canada AM* and then to chat about his findings on CityTV's *Breakfast Television*. He was also interviewed for an article in the *Globe and Mail* and did a few local interviews.

While the media attention took him a bit by surprise, Smith was happy to oblige with interview requests. Not only was it an opportunity to promote the University's new College of Management and Economics and its research efforts, but also the topic is one of importance and worth public discussion, Smith says.

"I think the reason the study is getting attention is that it's a subject that people can identify with. At some point in life, most people have been through the interview process,

a really good experience or a really horrendous one."

What Smith found in his study — conducted with Sheldene Simola of Trent University, who was the lead author, and Simon Taggar of Wilfrid Laurier University — is that a majority of human resources professionals stray from predetermined questions during interviews. They are also prompting candidates when they struggle with answers.

This is the first study to assess the actual interview practices of Canadian human resource professionals. The HR professionals in the study group all had a university degree, a professional designation in HR and had conducted 30 or more interviews in the previous 12 months.

The researchers found that 78 per cent of the respondents admitted to giving impromptu hints and words

of encouragement to candidates, and 75 per cent reported adding new questions to the list during interviews.

"Our findings show that there are problems with consistency in interviews, which then jeopardizes the validity of the process," says Smith. "One of the most revealing findings is that people conducting interviews are often modifying the questions and diverting away from the interview script, and this allows for bias or unfairness to creep in."

The research, published recently in the *Canadian Journal of Administrative Sciences*, examined how interviewers question candidates, note-taking, use of rating scales and the level of interview training of current professionals.

It also compared the methods used by HR professionals with what research studies have identified as best practices and with the practices that are highly-valued by human rights tribunals.

"Research shows that the higher the level of structure or consistency across candidates, the more likely for the job," says Smith. "Sticking to a list of set questions and asking each candidate the same questions is also important when it comes to demonstrating fairness to a human rights tribunal."

The researchers also found that 23 per cent of people wait until the interview is over before making notes. Not taking notes as the interview progresses makes it more difficult to recall what was said and could adversely influence an organization's credibility during human rights tribunal deliberations, said Smith. In addition, he says it's important to keep all notes for at least one year.

Only about 12 per cent of people surveyed reported using rating scales, despite the fact that such scales have been shown to increase the consistency in measurement across candidates, he said.

The study also revealed that a majority of HR professionals had not received formal training in conducting interviews, with 66 per cent reporting they received training during college or university and 33 per cent who said they were trained by someone in their organization.

"Interviewing in many cases is a central part of their job description, yet many haven't taken any formal training," says Smith.

"This research has found that the interview practices and skills that are seen as basic to the job aren't happening. And given Canada's ever-increasing diversity of population, the need for validity and transparency in the interview process is more important than ever," he says.

# Project Soy Highlights Student Innovation

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

FORTUNE COOKIES, facial cream and candy — all made from soybeans — were among the winners at this year's Project SOY competition.

Aimed at creating new uses and marketing strategies for soybeans, the 12<sup>th</sup> annual event showcased 13 projects from 38 University of Guelph students, including the regional campuses at Alfred, Kemptville and Ridgetown.

"This competition is a great example of an innovative partnership

between students, government and the agri-food industry," said Leona Dombrowsky, Ontario's minister of agriculture, food and rural affairs, who attended the event. "Their innovation and enthusiasm make them our future leaders."

Cash prizes of \$2,500, \$1,000 and \$5,000 were awarded to the top three projects in two categories: diploma and undergraduate/graduate.

First place in the diploma category went to Roy Belluz from the Kemptville campus for developing soy fortune cookies. Second prize was won by Sandra Charlebois from

Campus D'Alfred for her soy pizza, and third place went to Sam Gerrie and Nick Cressman of Ridgetown for creating building materials out of soy straw.

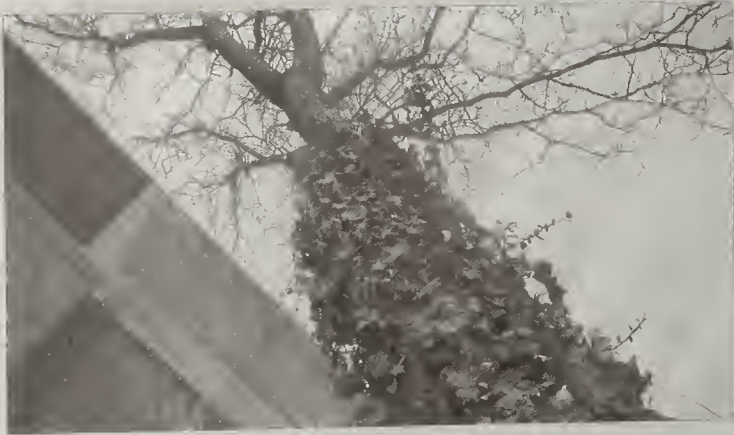
Topping the undergraduate/graduate category entries was a candy-coated chocolate confectionary made with soy protein by students Lauren Hill, Amar Kuruganti, Kelsie Leaman and Lynsey Walker. Second place was awarded to Trang Bui, Malin Borg, Cristina Cuda and Frida Gustavsson for their gluten-free soy pasta. Third place was a tie between Sayward Fetterly and Da-

vid Harris, who developed modeling clay and a pen and paper set, and Alvina Foo, Jia He, Flora Leung and Leo Tam for their soy breakfast patties.

Students were able to describe their projects and network with students, faculty, industry representatives and guests at an open house held prior to the awards ceremony.

Project SOY is sponsored by Dekalb Seeds, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Ontario Soybean Growers.





## Where Are You Now

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by April 11 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to [r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the March 26 photo was in the science complex: Steve Forbes, Margaret Timmins, Piuccia Hohenadel, Jan Guban, Bill Clair, Danny Martin, Ray Hutchison and John Van Manan.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

## CFI Funds Digital Audio Facility

*Continued from page 1*

horticultural production for the benefit of Canadian agriculture and the environment.

Back on the Guelph campus, music Prof. James Harley will use his \$126,298 to set up a state-of-the-art digital audio facility to pursue creative research in multi-channel audio composition and production, along with interactive performance using the latest in digital technology.

"Receiving the CFI grant is fantastic news," Harley says. "As a composer and performer, I have been active in these areas for several years, but this award will enable us to take this work to a completely new level. The facility will be on a par with any in Canada, and will support collaborative research with partners across

Canada and beyond."

He adds that the studio, along with the \$2.5-million Improvisation, Community and Social Practice project, which is supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, "really puts musical activity and research at Guelph on the map!"

In the School of Engineering, professor David Lubitz will be setting up a wind engineering laboratory with his \$121,197. "I'm really excited to receive this funding. It will allow us to convert our current wind tunnel to a state-of-the-art laboratory for wind energy, air quality and wind engineering problems. We can't wait to get the lab and field equipment in and start collecting data for our research projects," he says.

Researchers have several projects on the go aimed at predicting site-specific performance of small wind turbines and developing tools to allow people interested in installing turbines at their home, farm or business to get an accurate prediction of performance.

"Now we'll have the state-of-the-art tools needed to directly measure different wind parameters at operating wind turbines, which is crucial for validating the accuracy of the tools we're developing," says Lubitz.



**STOP**  
IN AT H&R BLOCK



**FAST**  
TAX PREP



**START**  
SPENDING

**Students, come in for your tax preparation and get instant cash back in just one visit.**



come in today or call  
1-800-HRBLOCK (472-5625)  
[www.hrblock.ca](http://www.hrblock.ca)



**H&R BLOCK®**

To qualify for student pricing, student must present either (i) a T202x documenting 4 or more months of full-time attendance at a college or university during 2007 or (ii) a valid high-school identification card. Expires July 31, 2008. Must also qualify for Instant Cash Back and Cash Back products. See office for details. Valid only at participating H&R Block locations in Canada. SPC Card offers valid from 04/01/07 to 03/31/08 at participating locations in Canada only. For Cashholder only. Offers may vary, restrictions may apply. Usage may be restricted when used in conjunction with any other offer or retailer loyalty card discounts. Cannot be used towards the purchase of gift cards or certificates.

**For information  
about paid  
advertising in  
At Guelph,  
contact Scott  
Anderson at  
519-827-9169.**

**OPTOMETRISTS  
GOEMANS  
& ASSOCIATES**

**Dr. Donna Goemans  
Dr. Paul Goemans  
Dr. Doris Hrvatin  
Dr. Tiffany Tang**  
Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED**

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,  
Laser Surgery Consultation

570 Kortright Rd. W, Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**

Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

Large two-bedroom cottage on Lake McQuaby south of North Bay, open-concept kitchen and living room, gas fireplace, wraparound deck, main floor laundry, Pat, Ext. 52742 or prichard@uoguelph.ca.

Seventy-gallon aquarium with stand, filter with media, new protein skimmer, two heaters, aeration pumps and test kits, 519-822-0170.

## FOR RENT

Two-and-a-half bedroom renovated home on quiet street in Exhibition Park area, 1½ baths, large living room with cathedral ceilings and skylights, wood burning stove in dining room, main floor bath with heated floor, large eat-in kitchen, Jacuzzi, landscaped private lot, parking for two vehicles, close to downtown, rivers and parks, suitable for professional couple, available Sept. 1, \$1,300 a month inclusive, Megan, 519-780-0807 or megan@naturalpathstone.com.

Furnished bachelor apartment to sublet on main floor of older home in Toronto, Spadina Road close to Forest Hill village, bus stop at front door and close to subway, available May 1 to Aug. 30, \$700 a month inclusive, Lois, 519-822-5241 or lbamsey@uoguelph.ca.

Basement sublet in townhouse, private bath, laundry, parking, cooking facilities, furnished common room, wireless Internet, available May 1 to Aug. 30, \$399 a month inclusive, 519-265-2112.

Three-bedroom house in south end, three baths, open-concept family room, gourmet kitchen with granite island, deck overlooking conservation area, on bus route, ideal for visiting faculty, available Aug. 1 to mid-December, Melody, Ext. 54337, 519-836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Furnished bright two-bedroom house, walking distance to campus and downtown, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck, parking and all amenities, available for short-term rental from May to August 2008, \$1,250 a month inclusive, ideal for visiting faculty, photos available, mmaiden@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished one-bedroom apartment in southwest Paris, France, short-term rental; two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fnmoll@rogers.com.

## WANTED

Responsible, mature, non-smoking female is interested in apartment or house-sitting in exchange for reasonable rent, references available, Kat, 519-731-1989.

**AVAILABLE MAY 1/08  
SHORT / LONG TERM  
2 Bedrooms Fully Furnished**  
This rare find is ideal for business or relocating professionals. Walk in with only your suitcase to upscale, beautifully decorated, immaculate condo in historical Phoenix Mill with view towards river. Jacuzzi, 1 1/2 baths, equipped kitchen, ensuite laundry, A/C, parking, fitness room. \$1,495 a month and \$100 flat fee for utilities (includes cable).  
Carol, 519-823-1857, or leave message at [etelrent@hotmail.com](mailto:etelrent@hotmail.com).

Math tutor for two children in grades six and seven, 519-822-0826.

U of G's Driving Research Lab is looking for licenses drivers aged 65 and older to take part in study involving driving simulator, Ryan, 519-822-4947.

## AVAILABLE

Fiddle/mandolin and acoustic guitar lessons at your location, more than 30 years of musical experience, Matthew, 519-822-0013 or mjglass1@hotmail.com.

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 519-836-8086 or cedmms@uoguelph.ca.

Classifieds is a free service available to staff, faculty, students, alumni and retirees of the University. Submit items to Linda Graham on Level 4 of the University Centre, fax to 519-824-7962 or send e-mail to [l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca).

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 881-7800  
Fax (519) 881-7810

## D & D GRANITEWORX INC.

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
[graniteworx@bellnet.ca](mailto:graniteworx@bellnet.ca)

**ClickSIGNS** 519-824-4120  
Visit us at the University Centre Ext. 58031

**Banner Stands**  
Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand

Portable and Affordable

Large Format Printing By: **Roland**

Banner-Up Retractable [www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)

**CONSUMER TRAVEL CENTRE**

**Your local travel agency.**  
We guarantee you the best personalized services  
And most economical prices.  
We're just a phone call away.  
Please contact Carrie Rankin at 519-824-6001  
or 519-212-8623 • E-mail: [ctravel@mgl.ca](mailto:ctravel@mgl.ca)  
"WE SERVE YOU BETTER"

**Pianos, books, lessons & more! 519.836.8492**

218-A Victoria Rd. S.  
Guelph, Ont.  
N1E 5R1  
fax: 519.836.9474  
[www.theoctavemc.com](http://www.theoctavemc.com)

**THE OCTAVE MUSIC CENTRE**

**Home hardware**

**Campus Hardware Limited**  
1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag

## YOUR PREFERRED

## Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM

Call today for a no-obligation quote

Toll Free 1-800-482-0822

Local 519-836-5700

Or visit our website at [www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)

Save Up To 50%  
In Insurance Product Discounts  
*plus*  
Your Group Discount!

**Waterloo Insurance**

Visit us at [www.economiceinsurance.com](http://www.economiceinsurance.com)

**OVM**  
ONTARIO VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

**Executive Announcement**  
Irene Moore, DVM, B.Sc. (Agr.)  
President of the Board of Directors



Dr. Irene Moore

The Ontario Veterinary Medical Association (OVMA) is pleased to announce the election of Dr. Irene Moore as President of its Board of Directors, 2008-09.

After graduating from the Ontario Veterinary College (University of Guelph) in 1986, Dr. Moore worked in a mixed animal practice for eight years. In 1994, she moved on to become an instructor and the Animal Colony Manager in the Veterinary Technology Program at the Ridgetown Campus of the University of Guelph. In 1999, she became the Program Coordinator and in 2007, Irene became the Associate Director of Academics, overseeing certificate, diploma and degree programs in not only veterinary technology but also agriculture, horticulture, environmental management and veterinary medical office administration.

Dr. Moore is also very active with a number of committees and associations, both on and off campus. She is currently the President of the Ontario Veterinary Technician Educators, and the President of the Association of Veterinary Educators which represents veterinary technology programs across North America. Dr. Moore was also Chair of the 2008 OVMA Conference Committee. A seasoned speaker at veterinary conferences across Eastern Canada, Dr. Moore has been honoured by the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians, receiving the OAVT Veterinary Appreciation Award.

Founded in 1980, the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association represents more than 3,300 Ontario veterinarians in private practice, government, academia, industry and public service. Its mandate is to advance and promote excellence in the veterinary profession in Ontario, and to contribute to the betterment of animal health and the protection of human health.



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

The Theatre in the Trees dinner theatre production of *The Love List* by Norm Foster continues weekends until April 26. Dinner is at 6:30 p.m.; showtime is 8 p.m. Cost is \$59. To order tickets, call Ext. 54110.

Instructor Rick Tofflemire leads a workshop on birds April 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are due April 16.

"Woodland Wildflowers" is the focus of a workshop led by gardener Lenore Ross May 8 from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$35. Deadline for registration and payment is April 24.

## CONCERTS

The School of Fine Art and Music presents "King David — An Oratorio" with the Guelph Symphony Orchestra and the University of Guelph Choirs conducted by Marta McCarthy April 12 at 8 p.m. at the Church of Our Lady Immaculate. For ticket information, call Ext. 53988.

## NOTICES

Nominations are being accepted until April 30 by the Steelworkers Local 4120 for the Susanne Sprowl Community Service Award. The dedication of Susanne Sprowl, a 20-year employee of the University. Anyone can nominate a member of Steelworkers Local 4120 for the \$500 award. For more information or eligibility requirements, contact the office at 519-824-4120, Ext. 58727, or via e-mail at [admin@uswa4120.ca](mailto:admin@uswa4120.ca).

The Office of Open Learning is offering a two-day, hands-on workshop called "Practical Plant Propagation" April 19 and 20. Topics include: fern spore germination, cuttings, division, scaling, grafting and tissue culture. A second workshop, "Basics of Plant Identification," will be held June 7 and 8. Cost is \$290 for each workshop. To register, call 519-767-1114, e-mail [hortinfo@open.uoguelph.ca](mailto:hortinfo@open.uoguelph.ca), or go online at [www.open.uoguelph.ca/hort](http://www.open.uoguelph.ca/hort).

Nominations for the CSA Teaching Excellence Award are due at 4 p.m. April 10 in the CSA office, UC 274. Nominations are to be made by undergraduate students. Forms are available at the office or from CSA academic commissioner Derek Pieper at [csacad@uoguelph.ca](mailto:csacad@uoguelph.ca).

The University community is invited to donate old running shoes to people living in a village outside Moshi, Tanzania. U of G student Adam Lewandowski is collecting shoes to take with him to Moshi, where he will be volunteering at a local school and medical clinic. All shoe sizes, including children's, will be accepted. They must be relatively clean and in decent shape. A bin will be set up inside the entrance of the Gryphon Dome where people can drop off shoes until April 10.

Until April 17, the student-run "Books for Africa" drive will be collecting textbooks published within the last eight years and other used books to help supply libraries and schools in Africa. Drop-off boxes are located in the University Centre, the Co-op Bookstore, and the science complex. For more information, visit [www.booksforafrica.org](http://www.booksforafrica.org).

The Ontario Ecology and Ethology Colloquium will be held on campus April 28 to 30. The annual conference is a forum for researchers to present their work and draws graduate and undergraduate students, faculty and post-docs from Ontario and beyond. Research presentations range from ecology and behaviour to evolution, genetics, psychology, conservation and environmental science.

## SEMINARS

"Acute ANIT-Induced Biliary Injury — Getting Your Ducts in a Row" is the focus of a talk by John Cullen of North Carolina State University in the Department of Pathology's seminar series April 9 at 11 a.m. in Pathobiology 101.

The Department of Microbiology graduate student seminar presents Filomena Ng discussing "Role of Biotechnology in Optimizing Bioethanol Production" April 11 at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 156.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

April 11 is the deadline to apply for the intensive four-day Course Re/Design Institute to be hosted by Teaching Support Services (TSS) May 13 to 16. Full details and an application form can be found at [www.uoguelph.ca/tss/cdinst](http://www.uoguelph.ca/tss/cdinst). If you have questions, call Mary Wilson at Ext. 56856.

TSS is also accepting applications for the annual Teaching and Learning Innovations Conference May 21.

This year's conference aims to foster inquiry and share knowledge and practices about what improves learning in the classroom, recognizing that teaching is intellectual work based on evidence of learning to inform practice. Details and registration information can be found at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca/tli/index.cfm](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca/tli/index.cfm).

TSS is offering two learning circle discussion groups — one new and one ongoing — for faculty and instructional staff. On April 15, the new Transformative Learning Discussion Group convenes to explore the field of transformative learning. On April 18, the ongoing group Teaching on the Edge continues discussion of innovative teaching techniques and ways these new approaches can be supported. Registration for both groups is available at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). New members are welcome in either group at any time. For more information, call Mary Nairn at Ext. 53571.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of PhD candidate Richard Frank, Environmental Biology, is April 10 at 9 a.m. in Graham Hall 3301. The thesis is "Naphthenic Acids: Identification of Structural Properties That Influence Acute Toxicity." The adviser is Prof. Keith Solomon.

The final examination of Chunping Liu, a PhD candidate in the Department of Economics, is April 14 at 10:30 a.m. in MacKinnon 720. The thesis is "Three Essays on Health Economics." The advisor is Prof. Brian Ferguson.

The final examination of Evé Bézaire Dussault, a PhD candidate in the Department of Environmental Biology, is April 14 at 1 p.m. in Graham Hall 3301. The thesis is "Effects of Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products on Benthic Invertebrates." The advisers are Profs. Paul Sibley and Keith Solomon.

The final examination of Rebecca Dolson, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is April 16 at 2 p.m. in science complex 3317. The thesis is "Lake Shape Predicts the Degree of Habitat Coupling in Canadian Shield Lakes." The adviser is Prof. Kevin McCann.

The final examination of PhD student Sarah Parkinson, Rural Studies, is April 18 at 1 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 143. The thesis is "Learning Participation in Rural

Development: A Study of Uganda's National Agricultural Advisory Services." The advisers are Profs. Al Lauzon and Ricardo Ramirez.

The final examination of Vicente Gonzalez-Juarez, a PhD candidate in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics, is April 22 at 1 p.m. in science complex 1504. The thesis is "Evaluation of Robust Regression in Sampling Estimation from a Mixture of Bivariate Populations." The advisers are Profs. Edward Carter and Jeanette O'Hara-Hines.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The 13th annual Women of Distinction Gala runs May 8 at the River Run Centre. For tickets, visit [www.guelph.org](http://www.guelph.org) or call 519-824-5150.

The Guelph Field Naturalists meet April 10 at 7:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Guest speaker is York University ornithologist Bridget Stutchbury, who will discuss her recent book, *Silence of the Songbirds*. Everyone is welcome.

The Edward Johnson Music Foundation is accepting applications for its 2008 scholarship and awards program for music students who are pursuing a post-secondary education. Application deadline is June 13. For information, call 519-821-7570 or visit [www.edwardjohnsonmusicfoundation.org](http://www.edwardjohnsonmusicfoundation.org).

The Guelph Community Foundation is taking part in a national program called Vital Signs® that will create a community report card to be used by local groups and organizations in developing future programs and making grant proposals. To identify those issues/indicators that are important to Guelph, the foundation invites community organizations to send two representatives to one of two consultation sessions on April 15: 9 to 11:30 a.m., Ontario Early Years Centre in Stone Road Mall, and 7 to 9:30 p.m., Evergreen Seniors Centre. Space is limited, and registration will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. Send e-mail to Eden Grodzinski at [guelphcf1@bellnet.ca](mailto:guelphcf1@bellnet.ca), or call 519-821-9216.

The Wellington Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society will host Tom Kennedy of the Niagara Branch April 22, 7:30 p.m. at 122 Harris Street, Guelph. He will speak on the topic "The History Behind Native Land Claims on the Grand River." For information on future

speakers, check the website [www.wellingtonogs.on.ca](http://www.wellingtonogs.on.ca).

Centre Wellington Pre-School will hold a show and sale April 27, 12 to 4 p.m. at the Sportsplex in Fergus, Ont. More than 20 small businesses from the area will be showcasing their products/services. Admission is free. For more information, e-mail [ryan\\_karen.macdonald@sympatico.ca](mailto:ryan_karen.macdonald@sympatico.ca).

The Masai Centre and the AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County (ACG) will host their 15th Red Ribbon Gala May 3 at the Italian Canadian Club. Proceeds will support the centre, ACG and the Tsepong clinic in Lesotho. This year's goal is to raise \$50,000 and reach the \$1-million target for their Africa campaign. The evening includes a reception/viewing hour, dinner, live and silent auctions and live entertainment. Tickets are \$100 (\$50 charitable receipt); to order, call Paul Young, at 519-763-2255, Ext. 150, or e-mail [redribbon@aidsguelph.org](mailto:redribbon@aidsguelph.org).

The 13th Annual Women of Distinction Gala runs May 8 at the River Run Centre. You can buy tickets online at [www.guelph.org](http://www.guelph.org) or by calling 519-824-5150.

The K-W Gem and Mineral Club is sponsoring its annual show and swap on May 3 at the Waterloo Community Arts Centre, 25 Regina St. South in uptown Waterloo. The show runs from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; admission is free and there are free specimens for children.

The Guelph-Wellington Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario hosts a public lecture by Guelph landscape architect Christopher Campbell April 23, 7 to 9 p.m., at the Macdonald Stewart Art Centre. His topic is "Ontario Gardens pre-1940: A Perspective on Dunington-Grubb Landscape Architects."

On April 26, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., you are invited to step inside some of Guelph's finest heritage buildings, many of which are not normally open to the public. A joint undertaking of Guelph Arts Council, Heritage Guelph and City of Guelph Tourism, Doors Open Guelph 2008 is a free event; no registration required. For a list of heritage buildings and maps, visit <http://guelpharts.va/guelphartscouncil/section.php?id=545>.



**brock road nursery**  
Garden Centre & Gift Shoppe

Your innovative full service community garden centre.

Offering a convenient, information based shopping experience rich in inspirational displays and more.

OPENING SOON For more information, spring hours & garden blog visit our website



[www.brockroadnursery.com](http://www.brockroadnursery.com) 1858 Gordon Street, Guelph, ON, N1L 1G6 519-836-5010

## AVAILABLE SPRING 2008

**Bright & Cheerful Spring Planters, New & Classic Pansies,**  
Certified Organic Seeds, First Quality Grass Seed,  
Guelph By-Low Friendly Pest Control & Fertilizers,  
Bulk Soils & Mulches For Delivery & Pickup,  
Spring Décor & More!



**INSIDE: A GOOD HEAD AND A GOOD HEART • WHAT'S THE BUZZ? • ECOHEALTH COURSE LAUNCHED**



## She's a Good Sport!

Sports play a big role in student Simran Singh's life. She works in the Department of Athletics, officiates at games, plays volleyball and badminton, and volunteers with Special Olympics and Movin' On. Her contributions have earned her national and campus awards. See story on page 9. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Province Supports Renewal

*Campus projects include upgrading classrooms, re-roofing various buildings*

**G**UELPH IS RECEIVING nearly \$12 million from the Ontario government to improve and upgrade campus buildings and facilities. The funding is U of G's share of a \$200-million allocation for campus renewal that was included in last month's provincial budget.

The announcement was made by Liz Sandals, MPP for Guelph-Wellington, on behalf of John Milloy, minister of training, colleges and universities.

"The University of Guelph's stu-

dents are our future business and community leaders," said Sandals. "By investing in their future, we are investing in Guelph's and Ontario's future."

U of G will use the money to complete priority projects related to utilities conservation and campus safety and to make upgrades and improvements to existing facilities.

The projects are all identified in the multi-year campus infrastructure renewal plan. They include upgrading classrooms; re-roofing various buildings and addressing de-

terioration issues, including exterior problems with the MacKinnon Building; lighting retrofits; water-reduction initiatives and replacement of outdated fire alarm systems.

"This is a welcomed contribution toward the \$17 million worth of critical campus renewal projects that we need to address this year," said president Alastair Summerlee. "We appreciate the efforts of Minister Milloy in securing this one-time funding. We hope that long-term and stable support for university operating budgets will follow."

## Mancuso Reappointed Provost

*Vice-president (academic) lauded for leadership, planning, collaboration*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**P**ROF. MAUREEN MANCUSO has been reappointed for a second five-year term as provost and vice-president (academic). The appointment was approved by Board of Governors last week.

President Alastair Summerlee says Mancuso "has done an excellent job as provost, initiating and guiding the University through some crucial self-assessments to improve the quality of the learning experience."

In particular, he applauds her for leading the integrated planning process, initiating a re-examination of the undergraduate learning experience, chairing the Presidential Task Force on Accessibility, and creating the annual "Think Big" conferences that position Guelph as a university that promotes the thinking and sharing of big ideas and questions.

"It's difficult to take on tasks that question core assumptions and propose changes, but Maureen has tack-

led this charge with optimism and innovation," says Summerlee.

He adds that feedback received from members of the University community also praised Mancuso for her academic leadership, planning skills and collaborative working style, among other things.

"The next few years will be crucial ones as we face many significant challenges and choices. I know Maureen will continue to demonstrate incredible leadership and fos-

*Continued on page 10*

## Royal Canin Commits \$3M

*Funds will support research in feline, canine nutrition*

**U**OF G HAS RECEIVED a \$3-million commitment from Royal Canin Canada Company to establish the Royal Canin Veterinary Diet Endowed Chair in Canine and Feline Clinical Nutrition and support independent research and graduate scholarships at the Ontario Veterinary College. This first-of-its-kind chair will be held by a faculty member in the Department of Clinical Studies, and the University will conduct an international search for the first chair holder.

"This generous gift is a wonderful example of the importance of private-sector/university partnerships," says president Alastair Summerlee. "Royal Canin Canada's investment in an endowed chair allows us to develop the area of feline and canine nutrition."

The Royal Canin Veterinary Diet Chair is also an important part of a strategic initiative by U of G to establish new teaching and research chairs across the spectrum of the University's disciplines, says Summerlee.

Royal Canin Canada CEO Xavier Unkovic says the application of nutrition in optimizing health and preventing and managing specific clinical conditions is increasingly important in veterinary practice.

"As a pet-first company, we know this investment will have a

beneficial impact on the health of dogs and cats," he says.

Brent Matthew, Royal Canin Canada veterinary division director, says the company is "extremely proud of the contribution that Medi-Cal/Royal Canin Veterinary Diet has made to the veterinary profession in Canada. Our partnership with the University of Guelph represents a dramatic new commitment to clinical nutrition in Canada."

OVC dean Elizabeth Stone says innovative nutritional research is essential to maintain and improve the health of dogs and cats.

"We are excited that this innovative new faculty position will help us find answers to important questions about how we should feed our feline and canine companions. In addition, this gift enables us to start a new graduate program in this area."

Royal Canin is a worldwide manufacturer and supplier of high-quality specialized dog and cat foods in the veterinary, pet specialty and breeder channels.

Its headquarters are in France, and production operations exist in 10 countries around the world, including a new Canadian plant opening in Guelph in 2008.

The company has a comprehensive veterinary-exclusive line of diets under the Medi-Cal/Royal Canin Veterinary Diet brand name.

## Grad Students Boost Campus Energy Project

*Pledges for energy conservation now exceed \$6.4 million*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**U**OF G GRADUATE STUDENTS have voted to contribute to improve energy efficiency on campus, bringing the total student commitment to more than \$5 million over the next 12 years.

They approved a student-initiated referendum in early April asking them to contribute about \$20 a year in new fees for energy conservation measures on campus through 2020, a pledge worth nearly \$700,000.

The initiative succeeds and mirrors action taken by Guelph undergraduate students last spring when they pledged \$4.3 million for energy improvements over the next 12 years.

Faculty, staff and alumni have also committed to the project, giving more than \$36,000 to date and making pledges through to 2013 that exceed \$1.4 million.

The University will match all the money raised, earmarking all the funds for energy conservation mea-

*Continued on page 10*



**clickSIGNS** 519-824-4120 Ext. 58031  
Visit us at the University Centre

**Banner Stands**  
Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand

Portable and Affordable

Large Format Printing By **Roland**

Banner-Up Retractable [www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)

**EYE EXAMS NOW ARRANGED**

- Eye Doctor Prescriptions Filled
- Two Opticians with over **57 Years** Combined Experience
- Senior's Discount Available
- Family has served Guelph and Wellington County since 1940

**Scott Coburn Optical**  
"A Name You Can Trust in Eyewear"

Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.  
Fri. 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

**Telephone 519-821-2020**

**123 WYNDHAM ST. N. Opposite the old Post Office**

**GUELPH MONTESSORI**

(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
**DOWNTOWN GUELPH**  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

519 **836-3810**  
[www.guelphmontessori.com](http://www.guelphmontessori.com)

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts • Skating
  - Swimming • Yoga
  - Musikgarten
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers

"Within the Child Lies the Fate of the Future"  
Dr. Maria Montessori

**Guelph's Laminate and Hardwood Flooring Headquarters**

Come in and see our large in-stock selection of laminate and hardwood flooring

**RONA CASHWAY**

**55 Dawson Road, Guelph**  
**519-821-5744**

**Acorn Financial Services**

210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: [michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com](mailto:michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com)

**Michael H.C. McMurray**  
Partner

- Are you happy with your savings and investments?
- Would you like to talk to someone about your financial future?
- With 24 years of financial experience, I can provide a professional second opinion
- Call me today for a free consultation

# board of governors

## 2008/09 Tuition Fees, Ancillary Budgets Approved

**A**T ITS APRIL 16 MEETING, Board of Governors approved U of G's proposed 2008/09 tuition fees and the operating budgets for ancillary enterprises (Student Housing Services, Parking Services, Hospitality Services and the University Centre administration).

Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), told the board that the increase in tuition revenue estimated at between \$3 million and \$3.5 million will help cover the inflationary cost increases faced by the University. President Alastair Summerlee advised governors that U of G is entering budget plan-

ning for the 2008/09 fiscal year with a structural deficit of \$14.3 million compounded by the inflationary cost increases that are estimated at between four and six per cent.

Although the University would have preferred to present the tuition fee increases as part of the overall Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities (MTCU) operating budget, this wasn't possible because of the lack of information on grant funding for 2008/09, said Summerlee. Guelph has also had a long-standing practice of ensuring that consideration of tuition fees takes place while students are on campus, he said.

Even with the increase, U of G's tuition fees will remain in the middle of the pack among comparable Ontario universities, said Mancuso. The approved tuition fees are set within the framework established by MTCU. The proposed fee changes range from zero to eight per cent depending on the program and whether the fees are for domestic or international students. The exact changes are as follows:

- entering undergraduate students, 4.5-per-cent increase (\$103 per semester);
- entering undergraduates, professional programs, eight-per-cent increase (\$195 to \$212 per semester);
- continuing undergraduates, four-per-cent increase (\$91 per semester);
- entering graduate students, eight-per-cent increase (\$155 per semester); and
- continuing graduate students, four-per-cent increase (\$78 per semester).

International tuition increases will affect only entering students, and the increases are eight per cent for most programs. There is no change for engineering and DVM programs.

The president reaffirmed his commitment to return to the June board meeting with the full preliminary MTCU budget and a multi-year plan for reducing the structural deficit.

In other business, OVC dean Elizabeth Stone presented an overview of the college's redevelopment. As part of the first phase of the redevelopment, B of G approved construction of a new Pathobiology/Animal Health Laboratory building.

Stone said the building, which is being funded by both federal and provincial grants, will enhance the quality of veterinary education and provide facilities for research on veterinary infectious diseases, immunology, and mammalian and comparative pathology. The building will front onto Gordon Street between the Food Science Building and the original OVC Building.

The board also approved plans for the second phase of the Axelrod Adaptive Reuse Project, which involves consolidating certain environmental programs into the Axelrod Building and other moves designed to enable U of G to increase graduate enrolment in environmental studies, the School of Fine Art and Music (SOFAM) and

the College of Social and Applied Human Sciences (CSAHS). This means relocating the Faculty of Environmental Sciences from Blackwood Hall, students and faculty in the School of Environmental Design and Rural Development from the Textiles Building, and some SOFAM programs by September 2008. The vacated space in Blackwood Hall will provide space for CSAHS graduate students.

The move of the Department of Land Resource Science from the Richards Building, which involves more extensive changes to building infrastructure to meet teaching and research needs, will take place over the summer of 2009.

These moves will permit the demolition of seriously deteriorated buildings, including the Textiles Building and the Environmental Biology Annex, thus reducing operating and deferred-maintenance costs. Plans also call for demolishing four brick houses on Gordon Street that were formerly occupied by units now housed in the science complex. Timing of these demolitions will depend on the relocation of the Campus Ministry from McNally House.

The total estimated project costs for Phase 2 are \$10 million.

## Interim VP (Research) Named

*Selection committee invites community input on position profile*

**P**ROF. STEVEN LISS, associate vice-president (research services), has been named interim vice-president (research). The appointment was approved by Board of Governors last week.

Liss joined U of G in May 2007 and has been working closely with people in all seven colleges to help advance discovery and creative pursuits.

Before coming to Guelph, he was associate dean for research, develop-

ment and science programs in the Faculty of Engineering, Architecture and Science at Ryerson University. He is also a professor of applied chemical and biological sciences.

Senate has begun the process of searching for a new VP (research) and recently approved the members of the selection committee. They are College of Management and Economics dean Chris McKenna; Prof. Andrew Gordon, Environmental Biology; Prof. Brian Husband, Inter-

grative Biology; Prof. Smaro Kamboureli, English and Theatre Studies; graduate student Michael Schumaker; Office of Research staff member Mary Fowler; and the dean of graduate studies or a designate.

Information about the selection process will soon be available on the U of G website. Members of the University community are invited to visit the site and offer their input on the desired qualities of a research VP to help create a position profile.

**The next issue of *At Guelph* appears May 7. Copy deadline is April 29.**

<b>at GUELPH</b>	<p><b>Editor</b> Barbara Chance <a href="mailto:b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca">b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca</a></p> <p><b>Design</b> Peter Enneson</p> <p><b>Production</b> Linda Graham <a href="mailto:lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca">lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca</a></p> <p><b>Advertising</b> Scott Anderson <a href="mailto:thanderson@difference.rogers.com">thanderson@difference.rogers.com</a></p> <p><b>Director</b> Chuck Cunningham <a href="mailto:c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca">c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca</a></p>	<p>At Guelph is published every two weeks by Communications and Public Affairs, Level 4, University Centre, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.</p> <p>Inquiries: 519-824-4120 Editorial: Ext. 56580 Distribution: Ext. 56581 Advertising: Ext. 56580 <a href="http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguide">www.uoguelph.ca/atguide</a> Classifieds: Ext. 56581 Fax: 519-824-7962 Website: <a href="http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph">www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph</a></p>	<p>Articles may be reprinted with credit to <i>At Guelph</i>.</p> <p><b>Subscriptions</b> \$25 (includes GST); \$30 outside Canada ISSN 08364478</p>
------------------	---	---	--



**DAY OF MOURNING APRIL 28**

April 28 is the Day of Mourning, an annual day of remembrance for Canadian workers who have been killed or suffer disease or injury on the job. The day was created by the union movement as part of an effort to achieve safe working conditions for the country's workers.

**RECONSTRUCTION TO BEGIN IN PARKING LOTS IN MAY**

Two major campus parking lots will be closed for reconstruction from May to late August. P30 on McGilvray Street and P31 on South Ring Road will both be totally rebuilt, with new asphalt, lighting, curbing, storm-water management and emergency telephone call stations. New sidewalks will also be built at both sites. In addition, P30 will be expanded to offset parking spaces lost due to the OVC redevelopment project. The pay-as-you-park area at P31 will be moved one block east to P8 at Mountain Hall.

**PENNEE NAMED UWO DEAN**

Prof. Donna Pennée, associate dean of arts and social sciences, has been appointed dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at the University of Western Ontario. Prof. Ann Wilson, English and Theatre Studies, will serve as interim associate dean of arts and social sciences from May 1 to Aug. 31. A farewell reception for Pennée will be held April 30 from 3 to 6 p.m. in Room 442 of the University Centre. To attend, RSVP by April 25 to Ext. 53301 or [skinsell@uoguelph.ca](mailto:skinsell@uoguelph.ca).

**NOMINATIONS SOUGHT FOR SUSANNE SPRAWL AWARD**

Steelworkers Local 4120 is accepting nominations until April 30 for the Susanne Sprowl Community Service Award, which honours the memory and dedication of Susanne Sprowl, a 20-year employee at the University. Anyone can nominate a member of Steelworkers Local 4120 for the \$500 award. For more information or eligibility requirements, call Ext. 58727 or send e-mail to [admin@uswa4120.ca](mailto:admin@uswa4120.ca).

**HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO 'INTERACT' AT U OF G**

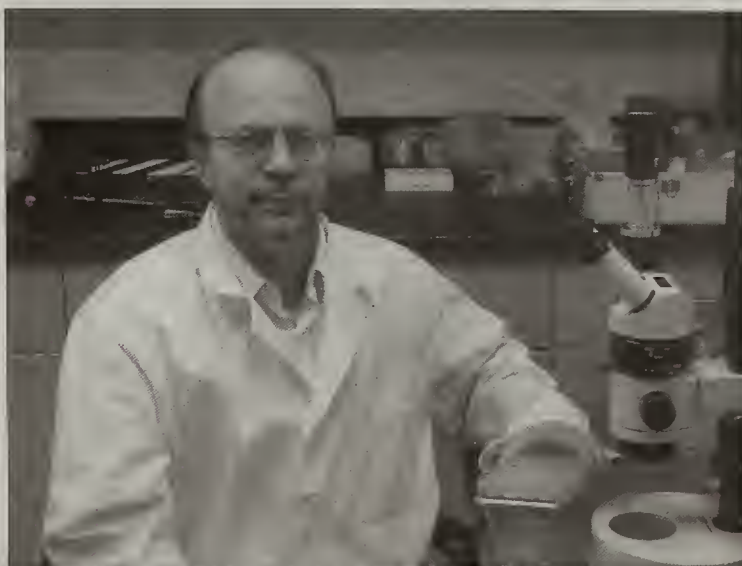
Close to 1,200 students in grades 10 and 11 across Ontario will descend on campus April 24 and 25 for "Interaction," a recruitment conference co-ordinated by Admission Services. Participants will have an opportunity to experience the living and learning environment of a university community and will attend academic sessions led by Guelph students, faculty and staff. For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/admissions/interaction](http://www.uoguelph.ca/admissions/interaction).

**COLLEGE OF ARTS SEEKS NOMINEES FOR THREE TEACHING AWARDS**

The College of Arts is calling for nominations from the University community for its three annual teaching excellence awards for faculty, sessionals and CLAs, and graduate teaching assistants. Nominations must be submitted to the dean of the College of Arts by June 30.

# International Researchers Receive Prestigious Grant

CBS prof to co-ordinate studies at universities in Canada, United States, Taiwan



Prof. Rod Merrill is the lead investigator of an international research team that has received a highly competitive Human Frontier Science grant.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**P**ROF. ROD MERRILL, Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB), has received a prestigious Human Frontier Science research grant.

Merrill is one of the first at U of G to receive this international award as the lead investigator of a research team. The grant provides \$1.2 million over three years for novel and innovative research.

"Grants from Human Frontier Science are highly competitive and prestigious," says MCB chair Chris Whitfield. "The award is a reflection of the quality of Dr. Merrill's work and acknowledgment of the excellent research environment here at the University of Guelph."

The Human Frontier Science program supports interdisciplinary research focused on the complex mechanisms of living organisms. It awards research grants to teams of scientists from different countries who wish to combine their expertise to approach questions that could not

be answered by individual laboratories. The team is expected to develop new lines of research through the collaboration.

Emphasis is placed on collaborations that bring together scientists from different disciplines, including biology, physics, mathematics, chemistry, computer science and engineering, to focus on problems in the life sciences.

Other members of Merrill's team are Carmay Lim of Academia Sinica in Taiwan, Norman Oppenheimer of the University of California, San Francisco, and Emil Pai of the University of Toronto.

The team will examine an enzyme-catalyzed chemical reaction as it occurs in protein crystals using time-resolved X-ray and laser techniques. The cutting-edge aspect of the research will be conducted in a specialized laboratory known as BioCARS at the Advanced Photon Source synchrotron in Chicago.

"It's a great opportunity to do research work that is bold and daring,"

says Merrill. "It's an international grant, so it also gives you an opportunity to go global with your research."

As lead investigator, he will be co-ordinating the research efforts at the four universities. His expertise is focused on protein toxins that function as enzymes to modify biological targets. He uses a wide array of physical, chemical and biological techniques to study these toxins.

"Toxins are produced by bacteria as tools to help invade human tissue. I'm interested in studying how they work so we can inactivate these tools and minimize the activity of disease-causing bacteria."

Merrill has previously studied *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* exotoxin A, one member of a family of powerful enzymes produced by pathogenic bacteria that cause diseases such as cholera, diphtheria and pneumonia. Through this research, he revealed how the toxins attack and kill human cells, which could help in the design and application of therapeutics.

## Guelph Reads!

**I**T'S A CHANCE for Guelph residents to argue for the one book they think everyone in the city should read.

Guelph Reads is a free community event initiated by U of G students that aims to promote literacy and challenge people to ask themselves what book everyone should read to build a better community.

The annual event features a panel of community leaders who have each chosen a book they think best encompasses social change. The panelists will present their books and their arguments at the Guelph Youth Music Centre April 26 at 7 p.m.

Guelph Reads began in 2005 as a class project in a first-year seminar taught by English professor Ajay Heble and has grown into a community-wide reading program.

"It's modelled after CBC's Canada Reads," says Aislinn Thomas, a U of G student who is helping to organize the event. "It's meant to engage the community, fuel discussion and encourage us to think critically about what we're reading."

This year's panel consists of English professor and author Tom King; short-fiction writer Rozema Maart; local doctor Anne-Marie Zajdlik, who founded the Masai for Africa

Project; and Norm McLeod, chief librarian at the Guelph Public Library. The four books to be presented are *Walden* by Henry David Thoreau, *I Write What I Like* by Steve Biko, 28 by Stephanie Nolen and *Urban Meltdown* by Clive Doucet.

Following the presentations, members of the audience can ask questions, challenge points and then cast their ballot for the book they think all of Guelph should read. The event will be broadcast later on CFRU FM, and people will be able to vote online at [www.guelphreads.org](http://www.guelphreads.org). The winning book will be announced in May.

## people

**WALLIN, DWIVEDI TO RECEIVE HONORARY DEGREES**

U of G chancellor Pamela Wallin will receive an honorary degree from the University of Alberta during its June convocation. University professor emeritus O.P. Dwivedi of the Department of Political Science will receive the University of Waterloo's inaugural honorary degree in environmental science.

**KUDOS FOR YOUNG ENGINEER**

First-year environmental engineering student Rebecca Swabey has been named one of three top undergraduate engineering students in the country by the Canadian Engineering Memorial Foundation. She will be awarded a \$5,000 scholarship next month during the annual general meeting of Engineers Canada in Quebec City.

**NATIONAL COACH NAMED**

Chris O'Rourke, head coach of the Gryphon men's basketball team, has been named head coach of Canada's men's basketball team for the 25th Summer Universiade, which runs July 1 to 12, 2009, in Belgrade, Serbia.

**LA STUDENTS ARE BLOOMING**

A group of third-year undergraduate landscape architecture students earned kudos at this year's Canada Blooms Show in Toronto. A garden designed by Danielle Bushore, Jeff Fenske, Daniella Giovanatto, Andrew MacDougald, Catherine Mann, Adam Chamberlin and Matt Sloan received the Outstanding Outdoor Entertainment Area Prize, an honourable mention for universal access and the People's Choice Garden Award. They worked on the design with local landscape architect and Guelph graduate Paul Brydges and Kevin Forestell of Forestell Designed Landscapes.

**SWIMMER HEADED TO BEIJING**

First-year Gryphon swimmer Samantha Whiteside of New Hamburg has been selected to represent Canada at the Beijing 2008 Olympic Youth Camp in August. The camp brings together more than 400 youth from around the world. She will also participate in the Olympic Torch Relay Aug. 7 in Beijing.

**BOOK READY TO LAUNCH**

Retired geography professor Fred Dahms will officially launch his new book, *Wellington County*, May 5 at 7 p.m. at the Bookshelf E-bar.

**ARTIST EXHIBITS WORKS**

New artworks by Bill MacDonald of Physical Resources are part of a group exhibition called "Continuum" running until May 17 at the Barber Gallery.

**RETIREMENT RECEPTION SET**

A reception will be held April 30 for Prof. Robert Keates, Molecular and Cellular Biology, who is retiring after more than 30 years at U of G. It runs from 3 to 5 p.m. in the University Club. If you plan to attend, RSVP by April 24 to Laleh Hatefi at [lhatefi@uoguelph.ca](mailto:lhatefi@uoguelph.ca) or Ext. 53362. For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/mcb](http://www.uoguelph.ca/mcb).





English professor Elaine Chang has written a feature-length screenplay that she hopes will one day appear on the big screen. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## A Life in Rewind

Movie lover's screenplay offers ideal medium to tell story and hold memories

BY TERESA PITMAN

**P**ROF. ELAINE CHANG, English and Theatre Studies, loves to watch movies, talk about movies and write about movies. She's made and exhibited short films. Now she's gone a step further and, with funding from Telefilm Canada, has written a feature-length screenplay that she hopes will one day appear on the big screen.

Despite Chang's love of film, her screenplay didn't start out in that format. At first it was a research project that she expected would turn into an article or perhaps a book on "family plots" in immigrant narratives, but it evolved into a screenplay because she ultimately began to see film as the best medium to tell the story.

"I needed to find a way to help people in the present engage in the story of what happened in the past," she says. "The result is a supernatural mystery — with ghosts in it. The present-day narrative is linear, but the flashbacks to the 1920s are fragmented and non-linear, as memories and this particular history tend to be. The process of working that out has been challenging but also very satisfying."

With the first draft completed, she and her partner, screenwriter and producer Michael Capellupo, are working on revisions to meet their Telefilm deadline, then will explore production possibilities.

Although this is her first venture into feature screenwriting, Chang is no stranger to publishing. Her first book, *Reel Asian: Asian Canada on Screen*, was released in November 2007, and she is co-editor of a second book almost ready to hit bookstore shelves ("we're just checking the galley's now").

*Reel Asian* examines Asian-Canadian film and video across the country. "The book is building an audience for itself," says Chang, who

considers the publication a starting point for discussion about Asian-Canadian community and identity.

The second book, titled *Decentre: Concerning Artist-Run Culture / à propos de centres d'artistes*, includes contributions from more than 100 people.

"The expression 'artist-run culture' refers to cultural production and exhibition channels primarily supported by artist collectives and government sources, rather than by commercial galleries, for example," she says. "The book focuses on the visual and media arts, but the term also includes performance and other arts."

Is an artist-run culture a good thing? Naturally, with that many contributors, you'll get some diverging opinions, says Chang.

"A lot of people celebrate the freedom and autonomy afforded to independent artists. Artist-run centres are often places where emerging artists find mentorship and ways of breaking into the art world."

She quotes one contributor to the book, A.A. Bronson, who says: "The genius of the artist is his ability to crap on the hand that feeds him."

Says Chang: "In other words, artists should dare to provoke and even offend the status quo, revealing a society's dark and suppressed secrets."

In some ways, artist-run centres make this more possible because artists don't have to make commercial appeal a priority, she says. The downside is that the reliance on government funding can influence the models the organizations choose.

"The book brings together these contradictions and explores both the pitfalls and the possibilities."

Another current project she's working on is an article about Japanese-Canadian filmmaker Miki Onodera, who created a feature-length experimental film called *I Have No Memory of My Direction*. Chang hopes this will eventually be-

come a chapter in a new book on the role of forgetting in communal histories.

"The raft of recent films and books thematizing Alzheimer's disease, short-term memory disorders and the like suggests a widespread cultural interest in the topic. I'm intrigued by memory loss as an actual means of historical engagement. For example, Asian-North American literature is filled with examples of what might be an injunction to forget the past, burning personal documents associated with the Chinese Exclusion, subduing the most painful parts of a family's ancestral history. So I would like to consider how we remember and how we forget — as equally constitutive parts of the whole process of collective memory."

Born and raised in Vancouver, Chang earned an MA and PhD at Stanford University and taught at Rutgers University before arriving at U of G in 2000.

"My plan was always to come back to Canada," she says. "When this opportunity at Guelph came up, the timing was just right."

Winner of the Central Student Association's 2004 Teaching Excellence Award, Chang has the fundamental strengths of all good teachers: she loves teaching and sincerely cares about her students.

"The best students here are curious and eager and really try to find meaning in the material, no matter how esoteric," she says.

The students who nominated her for the award lauded Chang for her "thought-provoking teaching style and open-minded approach to learning, and for creating a welcoming classroom environment."

"Teaching, writing and editing are my work — the ways I make my living," she says. "But it's nice that, for me, these things a lot of the time are also really, really fun."

## A Slice of Physics on Rollerblades

Prof demonstrates science concepts on Daily Planet

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**P**HYSICS PROFESSOR Joanne O'Meara was confident about the pendulum and the collapsing moose. She wasn't so sure about the trick with the Rollerblades and the fire extinguisher. But her personal form of jet propulsion worked just fine, helping her convey a physics concept during a first-time broadcasting gig on TV's Discovery Channel.

The U of G physicist appeared in three segments aired on national TV in late March and early April. In each one, she discussed and demonstrated basic concepts with Jay Ingram, host of the science show *Daily Planet*. They had met last year at a gathering of Canadian physicists.

"It's a great way to convey a tiny slice of physics to a wide audience," says O'Meara of her TV performance. "Scientific literacy is key to the 21st-century economy, and the more people there are with a general understanding of science, the better position we're in to make key policy decisions about things like global warming and alternative energy sources."

Besides, she adds, who knows how many prospective U of G students among the show's hundreds of thousands of viewers might have been inspired by these short physics lessons?

Taping of the segments, each three to four minutes long, took place in the MacNaughton Building earlier this year. For one segment, O'Meara used a pendulum to discuss kinetic energy and potential energy. Another episode used a collapsing wooden "moose" to relate changes in volume and surface area.

In her favourite segment, she

rode on Rollerblades propelled by a fire extinguisher. The point was to demonstrate action and reaction, but the stunt also "made for great TV," she says.

Looking for camera-friendly science demos, O'Meara didn't have to hunt far. These kinds of demonstrations have long been standard lecture fare for introductory physics classes at Guelph. In fact, she says what she did on TV resembled her regular lecture gig.

"I gave the same explanation I would give to a first-year physics class. It was just a much bigger audience."

Since joining the Department of Physics in 2002, she has taught four undergraduate courses each year and has been involved with curriculum development. She's also a regular participant in liaison events for high school students and teachers and for regional science fair participants. Next month, she will do several demos at a physics show for the Science@Guelph Experience camps for middle schools.

O'Meara's star turn has earned her some gentle ribbing from her colleagues. "I've heard a few jokes about quitting my day job to pursue stardom full time."

But she earned a thumbs-up from two fans at home: her husband, U of G physics professor Carl Svensson, and their three-year-old daughter, Hannah.

For many people, physics sounds complex, O'Meara concedes. But she finds that concepts explained clearly and simply often resonate with adults and kids.

"We're always trying to figure out how the world works around us. People like to know why things happen — and that's physics."

## Animal Welfare Focus of Talks

**H**OW DO ANIMALS FEEL about what we do to them? How might we treat them differently? And why do people get so upset about some animal welfare issues and not others?

Those are the key questions on the agenda for the first research symposium being hosted by the Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare. It runs April 28 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in OVC's Lifetime Learning Centre. Members of the University community are invited to attend.

Ron Swaisgood of the Centre for Conservation and Research for Endangered Species at the San Diego Zoo will give the keynote talk at 1:30 p.m. His topic is "Notoriously Difficult to Breed in Captivity: Behavioural Research to the Rescue of the Giant Panda."

Other speakers — mostly from

OAC, OVC, the College of Biological Science and the College of Arts — will discuss such topics as animal weaning and care, mating and motherhood, and housing and transportation of food animals. Also on the roster is Agathe Laroye of Université Louis Pasteur in France, who will discuss animal welfare in poor environments.

In addition, the symposium will include poster presentations.

Prof. Georgia Mason, Animal and Poultry Science, who holds the Canada Research Chair in Animal Welfare, says the event is intended mostly to share research and help forge links among researchers on campus. About 50 U of G faculty belong to the Campbell centre, which promotes animal welfare through teaching and research.

For more information, call Kimberly Sheppard at Ext. 53648.



# 'There's Water Pouring Into the 600'

BY TERESA PITMAN

**L**AST SUMMER, Valerie Robertson was playing golf in Nova Scotia when her BlackBerry rang. She knew that meant trouble.

"On the other end of the line was a student saying: 'There's water pouring into the 600,'" says Robertson, manager of U of G's Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Centre. A tap accidentally left on had caused flooding that threatened to shut down at least one of the facility's six NMR machines housed in the science complex. "I told him to try and cover it, and I started making calls." She doesn't mention whether she finished her golf game.

When you're responsible for managing something as high-tech as U of G's NMR spectrometers, being on-call — no matter where you are — is just part of the job. Things can and will go wrong.

First question: What do you do with an NMR machine? Although this equipment is familiar to a range of researchers on campus and certainly to chemistry students — Robertson provides training for new students in that department every year — it's a mystery to most of the rest of us. You might peek through the windows of the science complex and see the giant white cylinders with rounded edges quietly working away but still be no closer to understanding what they do. Yet these machines represent the cutting edge of science.

Here's a simplified version: The NMR spectrometers use intense magnetic fields to allow researchers to study the physical, chemical and biological properties of matter. The magnetic fields are created by superconducting wires that have to be extremely cold — four degrees above absolute zero for the five smaller NMR spectrometers and just two degrees above absolute zero for the new 800 machine. (That's cold. Absolute zero is -273 C.)

The wires are kept that cold by immersing them in liquid helium. When the 800 spectrometer was installed a year ago, Robertson says the magnet "got a bit balky." They often do when you first start them up. "What she means is, things blew up. As the heat from the magnet was transmitted to the liquid helium, it rapidly turned into a gas and began to fill the room with white helium clouds. This did some damage to the building's air conditioning and required repairs to get the exhaust system back up to scratch.

But don't imagine that her job consists



Valerie Robertson stands atop the newest addition to U of G's Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Centre, the 800 spectrometer. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

mainly of dealing with disasters. Most of the time, she's making sure that things like this don't happen by doing regular maintenance and trouble-shooting small problems. She also co-ordinates and manages use of the six machines with the help of technicians Peter Scheffer and Joe Meissner.

"The spectrometers are used by students, mostly graduate students, and faculty and also by external people — companies needing to have samples analyzed," she explains.

Despite the huge size of the machines, espe-

cially the 800 (part of the side of the building had to be removed to install it — check out the facility website at [nmr.uoguelph.ca](http://nmr.uoguelph.ca) for photos showing how it was brought in and set up), the samples they analyze are remarkably small. The item to be studied — either in solid form or dissolved in a special liquid — is inserted into a tiny tube. The tube is then dropped into the middle of the magnet, where a computer program records and helps analyze the results. Some tests take a few minutes; others last for days.

"We never let the machines sit idle because it would be such a waste," says Robertson. "They run all day and all night."

Some researchers using the spectrometers are analyzing samples or conducting studies about the structure of certain molecules. Others are researching the NMR process itself and trying to develop new tools and techniques that other scientists can use to make their own studies more effective.

Besides overseeing machine maintenance, Robertson has a variety of administrative responsibilities that include co-ordinating the schedules of people who want to use the spectrometers, training students and faculty and supervising them as needed, managing the billing and budgeting for use of the facility, talking to external companies that need information about how they can use the equipment, and researching and purchasing new or replacement equipment.

Her experience in this field dates back almost 40 years. "I got my first job in 1969, working with an NMR spectrometer that was jointly owned by McMaster and the University of Toronto. They kept it in Mississauga halfway between the two schools. The machine was a 220, and before that the largest ones had been 60s, so it was very exciting. We were seeing results that no one had ever seen before."

After six years with that program, Robertson stopped working for another six years to raise her two children. "Fortunately, not a lot happened in the NMR field during those years," she says.

When she was ready to return to work, she joined Roche, a pharmaceutical company, where she worked closely with Bruker, the company that makes the spectrometers. But after 12 years, Roche decided to close its Canadian research operations, and she was once again looking for an NMR lab to manage.

Fortunately, U of G was looking, too. Robertson took the Guelph position in 1993 despite being less than impressed by the work environment. "We had this horrible lab in the basement," she recalls. "Water would come pouring down on our heads periodically."

That memory just makes her smile now, though, as she looks around her current lab.

"If you do what I do, this is the most fabulous facility you could possibly have. NMR technology is just amazing. You can learn so much."

## Pioneering Ecohealth Course Launched

New course backed by \$1-million grant will rotate annually among three Canadian universities

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**P**ROFESSORS from three Canadian universities — including U of G — are teaming up to design a first-of-its-kind course in ecohealth. This emerging field promotes taking a more holistic approach to solving complex human, animal and environmental issues.

Backed by a \$1-million grant from the International Development Research Centre, faculty from Guelph, the University of British Columbia and Université du Québec à Montréal have formed the Canadian Community of Practice in Ecohealth initiative. They will work together to design and operate the 11-day course, which will be offered annually and rotate among the three universities.

At Guelph, the initiative includes Profs. Bruce Hunter, Pathobiology; Karen Houle, Philosophy; and David Walther-Toews, Population Medicine.

"Ecohealth has developed in response to the recognition that human health and well-being are embedded in the health of the ecosystem," says Hunter.

"When you focus on a human health problem, you have to consider how humans interact with animals and their environment, and the problem is influenced by a wide range of other critical factors, including socio-economic factors and cultural and spiritual practices. Effective solutions come from looking at the big picture."

An example of the importance of

this approach occurred in an area of South America that had an abnormally high number of children with learning disabilities, he says. At first it was assumed to be the result of exposure to heavy metal from a nearby mine. But as investigations stretched into local industry, environmental and cultural practices, it was found that deforestation was responsible for heavy-metal movement from the soils into the water, causing mercury levels in certain fish species to rise. People in the area were eating this particular fish at certain times of the year, and chronic mercury toxicity was causing their children to develop learning disabilities, he says.

"The environment, land use, people's diets and culture were all part of the solution. This approach

can be applied to local problems as well. For example, if a veterinarian is trying to diagnose a health problem in a cow, he or she should also look at the health of the entire farm, including management practices from animal housing to how the manure and barnyard runoff are handled to the air quality in the barn."

The first course will be offered Aug. 5 to 15 in Vancouver. It will then be hosted by Guelph in 2009 and Quebec in 2010.

"Over the next two years, the course will be upgraded to become an accepted graduate-level course within each of the universities," says Hunter.

In conjunction with the training program, the team of professors is also launching scholarships ranging

from \$1,000 to \$17,000 to support graduate students attending the course and to supplement field research that embraces an ecosystem approach.

"It's a way of building the capacity of people interested in this area of study," he says.

This year, 25 graduate students and five professionals will be accepted into the course, with many working in health fields.

In addition to designing the course, the professors are building a community network of Canadian academics and researchers who have expertise in ecohealth, with the aim of influencing future research, education and public policy.

For more information about the initiative, visit [www.copeh-can.ca](http://www.copeh-can.ca).



# A Good Head and a Good Heart

*"Beyond having the knowledge, you need to have passion, compassion and the aspiration to make a difference — even in one person's life — every day"*

By JEFF LOZON

**Editor's note:** The following is an edited version of the speech given by U of G graduate and Board of Governors member Jeff Lozon, one of Canada's most influential health-care administrators, at U of G's "Last Lecture" for graduating students April 3.

**T**HIRTY-TWO YEARS AGO, as I sat where you are today, looking ahead to my graduation, I honestly didn't know what path to take. I had grown up in a town of 150 people — Union, Ont. — and I was the first person in my extended family to attend university. While at Guelph, I studied political science and philosophy, and in thinking about what I wanted to do with the rest of my life, I considered anything and everything — social work, law, teaching. The only things I didn't consider were those that required sciences, like medicine, because I hadn't taken any science courses (and I really couldn't add or subtract very well).

In the end, I sort of stumbled into health administration. A man I had worked with briefly had told me about the program. It sounded sort of interesting, didn't require those sciences and had the added bonus of being a full year shorter than a law degree!

So, my point is this: It's OK not to know what you want to do with the rest of your life. It's OK not to have a plan today. Along the way, you'll find lots of people willing to help you, people who will offer good advice and interesting and unexpected opportunities — and sometimes *not* having a plan means you're more open to taking advantage of life-changing opportunities that you would never have imagined, or planned, for yourself.

I believe people are called to the University of Guelph. I believe I was, and I suspect that, in many respects, you were, too. When I was here, people didn't have airs. They were genuine in their own way. They probably had some significant differences from each other, but they had a lot more in common. From my observations as a parent of a U of G student and a member of Board of Governors, I would say that hasn't changed much. Let me give you an example.

In January, I attended an event hosted by U of G to announce an international partnership with the Kinross Gold Corporation in Brazil. It was held on the 54th floor of the TD Tower in Toronto. I met a number of students there, but one particular discussion stood out. A young woman from Wallacetown told me how excited she was to be going to Brazil this spring to study with the University. But she also told me that, at that moment, she was just as excited about being on the 54th floor of the TD Tower because she had never before been in a building that tall. When I heard that, I smiled inside, and here's why: When I graduated from Guelph in 1976, I had never heard of globalization. I had never been on an airplane. I had never been further from home than Sault Ste. Marie, and I could never conceive of a time when I would live in a place as big as Toronto or have a business meeting in Hong Kong.

Today, the world is so small and the opportunities are so great. Today, going to Brazil is an opportunity your school provides. Imagine the endless possibilities that lie beyond the University.

I expect the list of opportunities available to you seems overwhelming, and given your global horizon, the list of challenges facing the world may seem endless. But Guelph has prepared you well. Whether building schools in Peru, researching ways to improve water quality in Brazil or simply being there for someone going through a tough time here at home, you have already changed lives. You have already begun to set out your personal legacy.

Tonight's theme of "Changing Lives, Improving Life" is very fitting. It certainly is an inspiring vision. I don't presume to be an expert on how to do it. I do hope that over the years I have touched the lives of others in a positive way, but I don't have the answers or the roadmap to help you make your impact on the world. For each of us, our experiences and the lessons we take from them are our best guide.

Guelph was the place where I was introduced to a much bigger

world than the one I had known in Union — a town, like many small towns, where everyone looked the same, talked the same and thought the same. The University exposed me to incredible friendships and diverse people, including professors who didn't just teach the curriculum but who were committed to unleashing the potential in their students.

When I left campus, I didn't know where I was headed. But what I did know, and what I think is one of the most important things I learned at Guelph, was this: What you do with your life is not nearly as important as how you live your life and the passion and compassion you bring to it.

Take Mahatma Gandhi, for example. He gave up a law career to devote his life to campaigning for justice and peace. He is one of many who have campaigned for justice and peace in our time, yet arguably his legacy lies not in *what* he did but in the way he chose to live his life — in his passion, his compassion and his aspiration to make a difference every day.

The University of Guelph has trained you well and has provided you with solid knowledge, but beyond having the knowledge, you need to have passion, compassion and the aspiration to make a difference — even in one person's life — every day. And given the fact that some 70 per cent of you have been involved in volunteer work during your time at Guelph — a figure that is twice the national average — I think you are well on your way to making that difference.

A few years ago, I participated in Stanford University's executive MBA program, and former U.S. Secretary of State George Schultz gave a lecture to our class. During the question period, I asked him what he was most proud of in his career.

Now, *this* is an impressive man. He advised generations of presidents on economic policy, implemented the foreign policy that brought about the end of the Cold War, and won the Medal of Freedom in 1989. Did he mention any of these accomplishments? No. Instead, he told a story about how, many years ear-

lier, he'd helped get a Soviet dissident he'd never met into Israel and how, later, he had occasion to meet this man and learned that he and his family had built a new life together in Israel. *This* is what Mr. Schultz was most proud of in his career — the impact he'd had on an individual life.

This story has stayed with me because it conveyed a very important lesson: Apply yourself all the time, every day, no matter the task at hand. It is this commitment to the task, no matter how small, that distinguishes those whose lives are richest.

The second point I'd like to leave you with is this: Your best lesson is your latest mistake. I don't tend to have regrets. I feel bad if, looking back, I didn't handle something as well as I could have, but I try not to live life in the rearview mirror. There will always be times when things don't turn out the way you'd hoped they would, and you'll be disappointed, frustrated or confused. But learn from your past and allow yourself to always be open to learning from others today, tomorrow or 30 years from now.

The third and final point is this: Pause every so often and consider your place in the world and the relationships you have with others.

To illustrate this, I would like to share a story about relationships, things that I find are too easily forgotten when life gets busy. The story is from one of my favourite books, *Leadership Is an Art* by Max De Pree. It takes place in the 1920s at Herman Miller, the furniture factory. At that time, the machinery in most factories was run by steam. A millwright oversaw this process and, as you can appreciate, played a critical role in keeping the factory running. One day, the millwright at Herman Miller died, and the young owner and founder, D.J. De Pree, went to the millwright's home to pay his respects. After a few minutes of awkward conversation and periodic silences, the millwright's widow took out a book and started to read some poetry aloud. Moved by the tremendous beauty of the poetry, Mr. De Pree inquired about its author, only to learn that the poet was, in fact, the millwright himself.

Surprised, the young factory owner was left wondering whether the elderly man had been a millwright who happened to write poetry or if he'd been a poet who happened to work as a millwright.

This is one of my favourite books because it conveys this very important lesson: Your life and the opportunities that are afforded to you will very much be shaped by what you believe about others and what you believe about yourself. Ultimately, your ability to have a lasting impact on someone's life is about your ability to see beyond the obvious, to unleash the potential of those around you, to pause to consider your place in the world when you meet someone who is in a totally different situation.

Wherever you go, whatever you end up doing, remember that the person standing in front of you is passionate about something and has aspirations, too. And if you know nothing else about that person, know that.

You don't have to be Gandhi or Mother Teresa or Oprah to change the world. You change the world by changing one person's life, by seeing beyond the situation and beyond your place and the other person's place in the world and considering his or her passion and aspirations.

In your lifetime, you will do many things and you will wear many hats. May you never lose the passion and commitment that you — as students of the University of Guelph — already bring to all that you do every day and the compassion you offer to others.

And may you always be humble, no matter how great your success. For, as Nelson Mandela once said: "A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination."

Above all, may you continue to learn, to search, to change — changing lives and improving life. Yours and others. It's a tremendous goal. An inspiring vision. It's intangible. Organic. Contagious. And when you have a good head and a good heart, it also just happens. And that's the magic in it.



Jeff Lozon

PHOTO BY MICHAEL MAHOVLICH



# Catching Life's Curveballs Before They Knock You Down

*Family relations prof studies issues connected to families, poverty and social programs*

BY REBECCA KENDALL

SOMETIMES ALL IT TAKES TO empower a person is having someone to talk to — someone who understands and is supportive. This is especially true when coping with stressful issues, says Prof. Michèle Preyde, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition, who has been studying health and intervention effectiveness for the past decade.

During this time, Preyde has devoted her research to examining the social and psychological functioning of some of our most vulnerable populations, including parents of preterm infants in intensive-care units, adults coping with cancer and children living with mental health issues. Her work has been published in the *Journal of Evidence-Based Social Work*, the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* and in *Social Work in Health Care*.

Originally from Leamington, Ont., she completed a BSW at the University of Windsor, an MSW at Wayne State University and a PhD at the University of Toronto.

It was during her studies at Windsor that she became interested in exploring issues connected to families, poverty and social programs.

"At that time, the government was starting to cut funding to social welfare, and we were beginning to see the impact that had," she says. "Without some of those supports, people were unable to care for their children and were dropping them off at Children's Aid Societies and other agencies."

These cuts left many community-based groups unable to offer the same range of services, she adds. "Many families were affected in multiple layers."

Understanding the impact this was having on families — and children in particular — Preyde became a respite foster parent with the Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society. In this role, she provided backup support to foster families.

Her commitment to community service has also followed her to Guelph, where she's a member of the board of directors of Family and Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington County.

"This organization does important work that helps what some may call the most vulnerable group of people when you look at it from a social perspective," she says. "The staff are sensitive and thoughtful in terms of their approach to child welfare, and I'm honoured to be a part of it because, without trying to sound cliché, it truly does take a village to raise a child. When you look at the way our child-welfare system works and its weaknesses, it breaks your heart, especially when you're looking at it from the child's perspective."

It was through Preyde's work with Family and Children's Services that she became involved with the North-South Partnership for Children, an initiative that connects individuals and organizations in southern Ontario with First Nation communities in northern Ontario.

"The problems there are so vast and complex," she says. "Even the changing environment is having an impact on their traditional ways of life, including hunting, fishing and re-



sources."

Not surprisingly, this level of caring also finds its way into Preyde's research. Her lens is now focused on the psychosocial impact that illness, whether physical or mental, has on vulnerable populations.

Nearly all the existing literature on the impact of illness stems strictly from a medical perspective, but there are social and psychological elements to these situations that must also be examined, she says.

"We know that when people have a disease or illness, it can be stressful and can tax their abilities to cope. It may also be taxing on their support systems."

Much of her research involves exploring the experiences of people on both sides of the coin, with the goal of developing psychosocial interventions. In addition, she's reviewing and assessing the success of existing interventions.

One study took her into the neonatal intensive-care units at Toronto's Mount Sinai Hospital and Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre. There, she examined the effectiveness of a voluntary peer-to-peer pairing program for mothers who had a preterm newborn. These mothers were paired with experienced and trained mothers whose first language, culture, religion and cultural background were the same as their own. The goal was to provide individual peer support that would ease the stress and confusion felt by the new mothers.

"It's a supportive role that has to do with listening, validating and sharing a common experience," says Preyde.

This type of pairing was shown to lower the new mothers' levels of stress, anxiety and depression, she says. It also boosted their confidence in their parenting and helped them better understand their child's condition.

"The program was found to be quite effective in helping parents cope with the stressfulness of the situation. Formal social work clinicians were always available, but some of the theory behind the intervention suggests that if you haven't had that particular experience, it's hard to validate someone else's emotions."

Preyde is also interested in finding ways to reduce the psychosocial stresses of people affected by cancer, whether personally or because someone close to them has been diagnosed with the disease. She's conducting a systemic review of current psychosocial interventions available to adults who have been diagnosed with cancer and are now undergoing treatment.

"It's not clear what the best way to help people cope during this time is. When someone is diagnosed with cancer, a whole host of questions and issues come to the forefront."

The initial diagnosis is traumatic for people and brings up concerns related to their health and the future welfare of their children, which can influence interactions with family and friends, she says.

"Medications can be expensive, people may be unable to work because of the disease or their treatment, and there are psychological and personal challenges that may

be experienced, including challenges to their identity, self-esteem, interpersonal connections and family relationships. Even things like trying to understand medical terminology can be stressful for people. There are so many maybes and percentages and possibilities, and it's frustrating to not know what to expect."

These factors can also have implications for the friends and family who are worried about them, says Preyde.

"We don't always know the best way to support other people, what to say and what will make them feel comfortable."

Another vein of research is Preyde's childhood mental health projects, which include a longitudinal study of the lives of children and their families after they've been discharged from children's mental health residential care or intensive home-based service programs.

"It's difficult to provide care to people in a systematic way," she says. "People sometimes fall through the cracks. In mental health care, we're a bit behind in providing services for families. With the research, we've been able to identify kids at an earlier age. Years ago, we didn't know if it was the terrible twos or something we should be worried about. Now we're able to make those distinctions a little better. We're beginning to develop better mental health care and better understanding of how it should be developed for parents and the school system."

Preyde says the most satisfying part of her work is the hope that people in stressful situations will benefit from psychosocial intervention.

"My hope is for improvements in the quality of life for people with illness and the quality of work life for people delivering psychosocial intervention. I hope this body of research will lead to better help for people as they adjust or manage or cope with whatever curveball life has thrown them."

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWABE



**brock road nursery**  
Garden Centre & Gift Shoppe

Your innovative full service  
community garden centre.  
Offering a convenient, information  
based shopping experience rich  
in inspirational displays and more.  
**OPEN DAILY!** For more information  
and hours visit us online or in store.



**Mother's Day is May 11th,  
visit us for great gifts Mom will love!**  
Certified Organic Seeds, First Quality Grass Seed,  
Premium Lawn Fertilizer, Bulk Soils & Mulches For  
Delivery & Pickup, 1st Quality Ontario Grown  
Nursery Stock, 1st Quality Ontario Grown Perennials,  
Knowledgeable Associates, Décor & Much More!

[www.brockroadnursery.com](http://www.brockroadnursery.com) . 1858 Gordon Street, Guelph, ON, N1L 1G6 . 519-836-5010



# What's the Buzz?

Online journal a gold mine of information for professional entomologists and insect enthusiasts

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**W**HAT'S THAT THING buzzing around your campsite, munching through your vegetable patch or hovering over your picnic table?

You might go running for your well-thumbed insect field guide. Instead, imagine reaching for your cellphone or PDA and calling up a quick and accurate web-based reference source to identify that bug.

That's the kind of user Prof. Steve Marshall, Environmental Biology, has in mind for an online journal now in its second year of publication. The *Canadian Journal of Arthropod Identification* (CJAI) is attracting interest among professional entomologists and insect enthusiasts, says Marshall, editor-in-chief of the journal, which was established in mid-2006.

"I would describe it as a buzz in the community," he says. "It's a gold mine of information that we weren't equipped to effectively deliver until the last few years."

So far, the CJAI has published six papers about groups of arthropods based on new studies, including new records of species not previously recognized in Canada. (Beyond insects, its scope also includes spiders, mites, crustaceans, centipedes and their relatives.) Authors have written about

scorpion flies, bee flies, bird mites, bees, mosquitoes and wasps.

The main feature of the online publications is their fully illustrated identification keys. Full-colour photos and descriptions of diagnostic parts — legs, wings, bodies — help walk the user through the keys.

Marshall says this approach allows users to identify most North American insects (a few small or cryptic species are difficult to ID by examining external morphology alone).

Best of all, he says, you need not lug a printed insect guide into the field, let alone his 700-page *Insects: Their Natural History and Diversity*, published two years ago. Instead, you can call up the journal's website ([www.biology.ualberta.ca/bsc/ejournal/ejournal.html](http://www.biology.ualberta.ca/bsc/ejournal/ejournal.html)) on your laptop, cellphone or BlackBerry for a digital insect key.

"We don't need a special device for this. This is identification for anybody."

Digital photography and easy access to the web enable anyone to identify insects in the field, says Mar-

shall, who believes "bug-watching" will one day be as popular as bird-watching among amateur naturalists.

"Formerly it was only experts. All of a sudden there's an explosion of interest. My 11-year-old son can now take a paper wasp or yellow-jacket and use the CJAI to identify it to species in a few steps."

(For the hard-to-identify 10 per cent, he points to predictions of Prof. Paul Hebert, Integrative Biology, who heads U of G's Biodiversity In-

technical editor.

In a related project, Buck has overseen renovation of the insect collection, including installation of new cabinets in its ground-floor quarters in the Bovey Building. Many new records in the digital journal have been found among the collection's roughly two million specimens. Marshall says most CJAI authors rely on the collection's specimens and data in writing their publications.

Buck was the lead author of a

hopes to publish in the online journal.

Another prospective author is master's student Morgan Jackson, who is studying economically important flies such as fruit flies. A retired entomologist in New Brunswick plans to publish a guide to eastern Canadian horseflies and deer flies. And the journal has recently accepted a review of flat mayflies found around the world.

Marshall hopes the journal will help forge connections between academic researchers and amateur naturalists.

"What we've done is provide taxonomic experts with a link to the broader community and an ideal vehicle for dissemination of their unique knowledge using new tools and technologies."

He adds that the online publication will make it easier to publish more regular reviews of insect groups. Print reviews are the scientific gold standard for taxonomists, he says, but they are costly to produce, and no current reviews exist for most arthropods.

The journal is sponsored by the Biological Survey of Canada and supported by U of G, the University of Alberta, the Canadian Museum of Nature and the H.V. Danks Trust Fund. Its editorial board consists of experts from across the country.

*"It's a gold mine of information that we weren't equipped to effectively deliver until the last few years."*

stitute of Ontario. Hebert believes scientists and naturalists alike will one day be able to use a handheld "bar-coding" device to identify cryptic organisms — not just insects — by sampling a bit of tissue for telltale DNA.)

Three of the six CJAI issues posted online so far were written or co-authored by Guelph researchers. Marshall has co-written papers on scorpion flies, wasps and bee flies. Other authors include Matthias Buck, curator of U of G's insect collection, and master's student David Cheung, who serves as the journal's

500-page identification atlas of wasps published in the journal early this year. Besides serving as an up-to-date key, he says, his exhaustive review of the group turned up new species.

That discovery process is almost de rigueur for researchers writing these keys, says Marshall. For instance, that new identification guide for bee flies contains about 75 species, roughly twice the number known earlier.

Cheung is writing a key to nursery and landscape pests — from aphids to Japanese beetles — that he

**COMMUNITY RecreACTION**  
UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH, DEPARTMENT OF ATHLETICS

AQUATIC'S COMMUNITY SPORTS DANCE | FITNESS | LIFESAVING  
MARTIAL ARTS PILATES SAFE CERTIFICATION

Children & Youth  
Gryphon Summer CAMPS

[gryphons.ca](http://gryphons.ca)

## GET FIT ON CAMPUS

The Department of Athletics offers programming for ALL students, faculty, staff and the Guelph community.

**REGISTER NOW!**

- Aquatics
- Fitness Classes
- Dance
- Martial Arts
- Sports
- Pilates & Yoga
- Community Leagues

**4 kids**

swim lessons, dance, family fitness, yoga & summer camps!

**gryphonline**

**gryphons.ca**

519-824-4120 ext. 56253



# George Is Back to Gorgeous

Vietnamese pot-bellied pig treated for life-threatening condition at OVC

BY BARRY GUNN

**L**IFE IS BACK TO NORMAL for a Guelph family and George, their beloved Vietnamese pot-bellied pig, thanks to the efforts of OVC's large-animal clinic.

George is back to basking in the sun, rooting around the neighbours' garage and snuggling under a blanket on the family couch — all the things a two-year-old 60-kilogram pig loves to do.

"I'm still so amazed and impressed at the care George received while at OVC," says owner Jackie Curtis.

George's prognosis was grave when he was admitted in January. Immobile due to post-anesthetic myopathy — an adverse reaction to general anesthetic that leads to muscle damage caused by high serum levels of muscle enzymes — George couldn't walk or move, eat or drink.

"Everything George's veterinarian did was right — it was just an unusual complication," says large-animal clinician Kim McGurrin, part of a team that included veterinarian Luis Arroyo, D.V.Sc. residents



George the pot-bellied pig is back on his feet after being treated at OVC for an adverse reaction to general anesthetic that left him immobilized. His medical team included, from left, fourth-year student Patricia Rosenstein, large-animal clinician Kim McGurrin and intern Tiffany Granone.

PHOTO BY BARRY GUNN

Carlos Medina and Ashley Whitehead, intern Tiffany Granone and fourth-year DVM student Patricia Rosenstein.

In horses, post-anesthetic myopathy may occur in three to six per cent of anesthetic cases, and symptoms can range from swollen muscles and lameness to partial paralysis with renal failure and shock.

In George's case, muscle enzyme readings were over one million — astonishingly high considering readings higher than 1,000 can cause serious damage.

But four days later, he was able to move around under his own power after treatment that included pain medication, lots of IV fluids and intensive physiotherapy (this included rolling him over every two to three hours and helping him stand using a special body sling that took the weight off his legs). Five days after arriving at OVC, the pig was back home with his family.

"George is completely back to normal," says Curtis. "He is walking and running, and you'd never know that he ever had muscle damage."

## What a Good Sport!

Student honoured for contributions to U of G's intramural, peer helper programs

BY TERESA PITMAN

**T**HERE'S AN OLD SAYING: "If you want to get something done, ask a busy person." Fourth-year sociology student Simran Singh might just be the busy person they're talking about because she's definitely getting a lot done.

Singh is the assistant co-ordinator of intramural sports in the Department of Athletics and has been a peer helper in the department for three semesters. She is a member of the Special Olympics Committee that is hosting a basketball hometown tournament later this year and volunteers with Movin' On to help public school kids be more active during the school day. She's also a special friend to an eight-year-old girl involved with Family and Children's Services of Guelph and Wellington.

These activities have won Singh two awards in recent weeks. First, she received the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association (CIRA) Post-Secondary Leadership Award for her work co-ordinating and promoting intramural activities. A few days later, she was presented with U of G's Lin Coburn Award for her contributions as a peer helper in the intramurals program. This award also recognizes scholastic achievement, campus and community involvement, initiative and ability to serve as a role model for other students.

"I don't do it for the awards," Singh is quick to say. "I do this because I enjoy it."

This is the third consecutive year that someone from U of G has won the CIRA award, and she believes

that speaks highly of Guelph's intramural program. "It's one of the most successful programs in the country in terms of the percentage of students who participate," she says.

After receiving the awards, Singh attended a week-long conference in Texas for U.S. and Canadian managers of intramural recreational sports.

"This was a followup to the CIRA conference I attended in February," she says. "It was very exciting to be part of it and to meet people from across North America. I've come back with so many ideas about things we could be doing."

As you might expect, sports have always been a big part of Singh's life. At her Brampton high school, she was captain of the volleyball team, president of the Athletic Council and Athlete of the Year, all while maintaining a solid grade average.

"What kept me going was know-

ing that I was going to play volleyball at the end of the day."

Even though sports were important to her for balance and sanity, it was Singh's academic achievements that got her into U of G, where she's completing a double major in criminal justice and public policy and sociology.

She admits that in her first year, she had some trouble adapting to life at university. But that "culture shock" didn't last long, and by second year she was involved in intramural sports and had applied for the assistant co-ordinator position.

In that position, "I help run indoor and beach volleyball, badminton, tennis and Ultimate Frisbee," she says. "I hire the people who officiate at these sports and prepare the work schedule for the officials. I do the score cards and the filing — lots of filing."

Another important part of the job, she adds, is customer service — dealing with situations where someone has a complaint or a question.

Of course, Singh doesn't just co-ordinate sports: she also officiates at games and plays volleyball and badminton. "I feel that when I'm playing or officiating, I need to show excellent sportsmanship and do the best job I can because I'm representing the program."

She's been sidelined in recent weeks, though, by a knee injury that required surgery. "It's like something has been ripped out of my chest not to be able to play sports, but my plan is to come back strong in the fall."

Although not able to compete, Singh has still been officiating at games. "Sometimes I forget about the injury and surgery and start to run — and then my knee reminds

me that I can't quite do everything I used to do."

Her other volunteer duties managed to keep her busy throughout the semester, however. The Movin' On program, for example, had her visiting Tytler Public School once a week to work with primary and junior students.

"The objective is to introduce play and activities to help the kids become more physically active," she explains. "Otherwise some of them will go out at recess or lunch and just sit around. So we go and organize a relay race, obstacle course or skipping game and just kind of play with them so they have fun being active."

Singh intends to continue working for U of G's intramural program over the summer and would like to make sports administration her career. "It doesn't even feel like work because I enjoy it so much."

## Brake Design Earns International Kudos

**A** TEAM OF U OF G engineering students has garnered international recognition and considerable media attention for designing a single-handed lever to operate a bicycle brake. The design was inspired by a nine-year-old girl with a disabled hand.

Andrew Morris, Anina Sakaguchi, Micha Wallace and Katie Bell's innovation was named runner-up at the James Dyson Design Award competition held in New York City April 10.

Earning this top spot also led to

the students appearing on *Good Morning America* and *Canada AM* and being featured in the *Toronto Star*.

The team competed against 12 finalists chosen from national competitions in 14 countries. They were judged by Dyson himself, the inventor of one of the world's most famous vacuum cleaners.

"We're proud that our team came up with something so novel," says Wallace. "It's been so exciting to take part in this international competition and to interact with students from all around the world."

The Guelph students qualified for the competition after winning a national contest in Toronto in February for up-and-coming inventors.

Dyson's award program recognizes young designers and engineers who demonstrate his design philosophy — the ability to think differently, persist in the face of setbacks and create functional, innovative products that improve the way people live.

The U of G students took on the bicycle-brake project for a fourth-year engineering design course. Their inspiration was nine-year-old

Lauren Turner, who is missing part of one hand and was able to use only the back brake of her bicycle.

"We decided to incorporate both brakes into one lever," says Wallace. "That way she can operate the one brake lever with her full hand and still be able to stop quickly and feel safe on her bike."

The one-handed braking system was designed to be used on any bike and may ultimately prove useful for other cyclists with disabilities or those who often have to brake with a single hand, such as police officers and bicycle couriers, she says.



## KYLE GRANT

Fourth-year B.Comm. student in management economics

"Wrestling is one of those sports that's not a sprint — it's a marathon," says student Kyle Grant. "It's not the kind of thing you become instantly good at; you have to put in time developing your skills. But if you work hard enough at it, it will pay off."

It's certainly paying off for Grant. This year, competing in the 90-kilogram weight category in varsity wrestling, he finished second in the provincial championships and fifth in Canada. He also competes in senior wrestling for competitors over age 19 and this year placed third in the Guelph Open competition.

"I've had a good year," says Grant, who credits a lot of his success to head wrestling coach Doug Cox. "His hard work and commitment are the reason the athletes on the team are able to excel. Without a good coach, it doesn't matter how hard you work, you won't succeed."

Of course, the hard work is also essential. Grant practices wrestling "on the mat" six times a week for two hours at a time, then adds in an hour and a half of weightlifting three or four times a week. He also does cardio work — usually running — every day.

Grant says he's always enjoyed sports, playing basketball and baseball when he was younger. In high school, he tried out for the wrestling team and found he really liked it, but he was also involved in football and rugby, so his time was divided.

"When I came to university, I made the decision to commit to wrestling," he says. "I hope to stay in Guelph — I love it here — and continue my training and just see what happens."

## JOANNE SCHEUER

French studies secretary in the School of Languages and Literatures, joined U of G in 1999

The main piece of equipment Joanne Scheuer needs in her volunteer work is something pretty simple: a box of Kleenex. Sometimes several boxes.

"The tears are pretty constant the first few nights," says Scheuer, who co-facilitates a group in connection with Hospice Wellington for people who have lost a partner or parent. She got involved five years ago, three years after her husband died and she found support and encouragement through Hospice Wellington. "I had some one-to-one support, but I found the group very beneficial."



Kyle Grant

Scheuer and the other volunteer she works with have adapted the original program, expanding it from six weekly meetings to eight. "Then, about a month after we're done, we have a reunion." Sometimes, depending on the group, they'll keep on meeting after that.

"We're not there to counsel people," she says. "We try to give them tools to cope with their loss. Often people are angry, but underlying that anger are other feelings, and we help them get those feelings out. It also helps people to know that they're not alone — that if they feel like they're going crazy or if they're exhausted by the grief they're experiencing, that's all normal, and other people are going through the same things."

In the first few months after losing a partner or parent, the emotions are "too fresh" to participate effectively in the group, says Scheuer. For most participants, it's been at least three months, and for some it can be years. "We've had people come 10 years later because they still needed support in resolving their feelings."

She says her volunteer work with the group is very rewarding "because the end result is so good. Not that it's all healed, but you can see people getting better and better as the weeks progress."

## FRANCESCO LERI

Faculty member in the Department of Psychology since 2002

"Most of my after-hours activities are sports-related," says Prof. Francesco Leri, whose favourite sport is tennis. Although he does some snowboarding in the winter and rides mountain bikes in the summer, he plays tennis all year round, taking advantage of the tennis courts in the Gryphon Dome and at the Cutten Club.

Leri takes tennis seriously. "I take lessons, I practise, I play with my colleagues and I play in a league." In addition to being good exercise, it's a way to enjoy time with friends and meet new people, he says.

When he's not hitting tennis balls around, Leri likes to spend time doing woodworking. He took a course at Conestoga College and has been able to use his woodworking skills on campus to create a maze to test rats.

On Sundays, Leri likes to take a break from building and playing sports and spend a couple of hours at home cooking. "I don't claim to make the best food ever, but I have fun cooking, and I'm happy with the results," he says. After focusing on Italian food for a time, he is now cooking more Indian meals. "The flavours are more complex, and the recipes use interesting combinations of spices."



Francesco Leri



Joanne Scheuer

# Phishing Scams Hit University

THE U OF G COMMUNITY has recently been the victim of a series of phishing scams in which an individual posing as Computing and Communications Services (CCS) support has requested e-mail user IDs and passwords.

As a result, a number of U of G e-mail accounts have been compromised and a large volume of spam has been sent from these accounts, says Jim Lennie, associate director of CCS.

Lennie says CCS would never ask members of the University to provide their user ID and password by e-mail.

If you have given out your user ID and password or think your security may have been compromised, you should change your password online at [www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/apps/password/change](http://www.uoguelph.ca/ccs/apps/password/change) and contact the CCS Help Centre at 58888help@uoguelph.ca, he says.

Several commercial e-mail providers, including Hotmail, have temporarily blocked e-mail originating from uoguelph.ca accounts because of the high volume of spam coming from these compromised accounts, says Lennie. CCS is working with these providers to restore service.

# Provost Reappointed

Continued from page 1

ter a team that faces these challenges with determination and unity."

Mancuso's first term as provost ends March 2009, so the reappointment continues until 2014.

"Our well-deserved reputation is built on the strength of the faculty at Guelph," she says. "I am very appreciative of the support I have received from deans, faculty, students and staff. They make coming to work a joy, even during the challenging times. To constantly question whether we are approaching our mission in the right way can sometimes be sensitive and difficult, but I believe it's imperative to improving the operations and output of the University."

She also thanks her team in the

provost's office.

"None of what our office has accomplished would be possible without their dedication and commitment. I am indebted to them for their efforts and support."

Mancuso is the first woman to hold the position of provost at Guelph. A political scientist, she earned a bachelor's degree from McMaster University, a master's degree from Carleton University and a D.Phil. from Nuffield College at Oxford University, where she was a British Council Fellow.

She served as chair of U of G's Department of Political Science from 1996 until 2000, when she was appointed associate vice-president (academic).

# Energy Vote Reaffirms Student Commitment

Continued from page 1

asures, which may range from lighting and heating to water efficiency to retrofitting.

"I'm very pleased to see this happen," says Michael Schumaker, president of the Graduate Students' Association. "This is a fantastic project. Now all students at the University have demonstrated that they are concerned about their energy footprint and want to make a contribution to reducing it. Each student is here for only a certain amount of time, but now we'll all be doing something to leave an important mark here."

The referendum was approved by 63 per cent of voting graduate students.

"This is an amazing result," says student Derek Pieper, a biological sciences undergraduate who helped lead last year's effort.

"I'm thrilled that graduate students have joined undergraduates in supporting the campus energy retrofit initiative. This result reaffirms Guelph students' commitment to

making a difference toward reducing our environmental impact."

Both Pieper and Schumaker say they hope the government and students at other universities start or make contributions to similar projects.

President Alastair Summerlee says he's "delighted and proud" about the graduate student referendum outcome and reiterates that energy conservation is a shared responsibility.

"We all need to think differently about how we use energy to reduce our environmental footprint, and we are fortunate to have an extraordinary university community that works together to solve many problems, including energy conservation."

He adds that this initiative "gives our students, staff and faculty the opportunity to play an active role while demonstrating the University's commitment to constantly monitoring and improving its energy use."

## YOUR PREFERRED

## Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM

Call today for a no-obligation quote

Toll Free 1-800-482-0822

Local 519-836-5700

Or visit our website at [www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)



Save Up To 50% In Insurance Product Discounts

plus Your Group Discount!



Visit us at [www.economicallinsurance.com](http://www.economicallinsurance.com)



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

TomTom One XL-S high-sensitivity GPS car navigation system, 4.3-inch touch screen, plug in and go, text to speech, latest-map guarantee for Canada and United States, new, still in shrink wrap, Ian, Ext. 54616 or ibarker@ovc.uoguelph.ca.

2001 Pontiac Grand Prix GT 3800, V6, four-door automatic, red, fully loaded with heads-up display, CD with equalizer, high-polish rims, like-new condition, 90,000 km, certified, 519-836-9064 evenings.

Amana side-by-side refrigerator, 26 cubic feet, water and ice dispenser, about five years old, Kate, Ext. 53382 or kstutta@uoguelph.ca.

Rockwell 14-inch wood- and metal-cutting bandsaw, 30 years old, good condition, needs new blade, has original instruction manual, Judy, Ext. 58681 or jnasby@uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom 2,000-square-foot townhouse in Charlotte's Landing on Grange Street, two baths, hardwood floors, completely finished walkout on lower level, appliances, no condo fees, 519-837-1742.

## FOR RENT

Partially furnished room in lower level of condo, fireplace, private bath, kitchenette/laundry room, cable and Internet, suitable for mature female, non-smoker, no pets, available May 1 or reduced rent to hold until September, \$575 a month inclusive, 519-837-4378 or clayne.starr@gmail.com.

Four-bedroom stone house on quiet street in downtown Guelph, 1½

baths, semi-finished basement, large yard, laundry, parking for two vehicles, available July 1 for one year, \$1,300 a month plus utilities, 412-586-5523 or jlampert@uoguelph.ca.

Large room to sublet in shared house on Roehampton Crescent, private bath, kitchen, Internet, laundry, parking, mature or grad student preferred, available from May to August, \$375 a month inclusive, Danielle, 519-455-5609 or dwoolsey@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom cottage on Lake McQuaby south of North Bay, boat-house, good fishing, clean water, available May 19, Pat, Ext. 52742 or prichard@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom fully equipped cottage near Sauble Beach, well-maintained, on treed lot, \$900 a week in July and August, \$750 in June and September, \$500 rest of year, 519-822-6765.

Furnished bachelor apartment to sublet on main floor of older home in Toronto, Spadina Road close to Forest Hill village, available May 1 to Aug. 30, \$700 a month inclusive, Lois, 519-822-5241 or lbamsey@uoguelph.ca.

Four rooms in new townhouse overlooking conservation area on Gordon Street, 20-minute walk to campus, new appliances, parking, laundry, cooking facilities, non-smokers, no pets, females preferred, available May 1, \$395 a month plus utilities, 647-883-0279, 905-826-6795 or lkjairath@yahoo.com.

Two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or

monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fnmoll@rogers.com.

## WANTED

Used hockey net in good condition, Ext. 52043, 519-821-7069 or barb@pr.uoguelph.ca.

Full-time nanny to provide daytime care for toddler in our home beginning in July, experience caring for toddlers and academic background in ECE desired, references required, Chris at carusoc@uoguelph.ca or Hafiz at maherali@uoguelph.ca.

Math tutor for two children in grades 6 and 7, 519-822-0826.

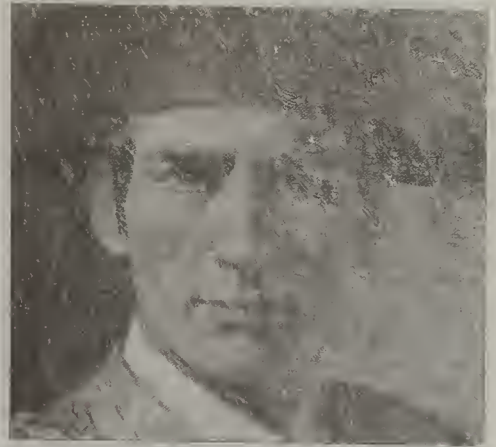
Responsible, mature non-smoking female interested in apartment- or house-sitting in exchange for reasonable rent, references available, Kat, 519-731-1989.

## AVAILABLE

Guitar lessons for children or adults, beginners welcome, Chris, 519-822-6132.

Responsible, outgoing second-year student with flexible summer schedule to babysit, CPR-certified, references available, Alexandra, astoneha@uoguelph.ca.

**AVAILABLE MAY 1/08  
SHORT / LONG TERM  
2 Bedrooms Fully Furnished**  
This rare find is ideal for business or relocating professionals. Walk in with only your suitcase to upscale, beautifully decorated, immaculate condo in historical Phoenix Mill with view towards river. Jacuzzi, 1 1/2 baths, equipped kitchen, en-suite laundry, A/C, parking, fitness room. \$1,485 a month and \$100 flat fee for utilities (includes cable). Carol, 519-823-1857, or laava message et intairant@hotmail.com.



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by April 25 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the April 9 photo was of a tree beside the Animal Science and Nutrition Building: Kimberley Gibson, Ann Stride, Gerrit Bos, Colin Garrioch, Bill Clair, Mark Britton, Danny Martin, John Van Manen, Ray Hutchison and Sean Fox.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

**Illuminating Landscapes of Georgian Bay**  
Original artwork by Connie Melnik and Pamela Fielding  
**Exhibition and Sale Opening Reception**  
Saturday, May 3, 1-4 p.m.  
Studio 404, 404 York Rd., Guelph  
Show runs until May 11  
(includes a Mother's Day Reception from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.)  
Contact 519-824-7628



**Campus Hardware Limited**  
1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag

## D & D GRANITEWORX INC.

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
graniteworx@bell.ca

## WELCOME TO DELTA GUELPH HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE.

### SPECIAL WEEKEND RATE

from **\$119.00\***  
per night

Offer for Friday, Saturday, Sunday only

- Starts March 7, until June 29, 2008
- Upgrade to our special weekend package for \$199. Includes a three-course dinner and breakfast for two at Fifty West Restaurant and Bar.\*\*

**DELTA**  
GUELPH  
HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Call 519-780-3700 or visit [www.deltaguelph.com](http://www.deltaguelph.com) and quote code GTrib.

## OPTOMETRISTS GOEMANS & ASSOCIATES

**Dr. Donna Goemans  
Dr. Paul Goemans  
Dr. Doris Hrvatin  
Dr. Tiffany Tang**  
Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

### NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,  
Laser Surgery Consultation  
570 Kortright Rd. W. Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**

Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible

## George's Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 831-7800  
Fax (519) 831-7810



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

"An Evening With the Stars" is the focus of a workshop led by Trevor Chandler May 20 and 22 from 8 to 10 p.m. Cost is \$35. Registration and payment are required by May 6.

## LECTURE

Chris Pollock, former director of the Institute of Grassland and Environmental Research in Wales, will give the 2008 Ann Oaks Lecture in the Biological Sciences May 5 at 7 p.m. in OVC 1714. His topic is "Managing the Technologies for the Third Agricultural Revolution." A reception will follow.

## NOTICES

The Guelph-Waterloo Centre for Graduate Work in Chemistry and Biochemistry holds its annual general meeting at the University of Waterloo April 25 at 1 p.m. in EIT 1015. At 3 p.m., Prof. Adrian Schwan, Chemistry, will give a public seminar on "Small Contributions to the Emerging Field of Sulfenic Acid Anion Chemistry."

Prof. Eric Poisson, Physics, a candidate for the position of chair of the Department of Physics, will give a public presentation April 30 at 9 a.m. in MacNaughton 113. A question period will follow. The selection committee invites comments on the presentation by May 16.

The Ontario Historical Society will hold its annual conference at U of G June 13 and 14. For details, visit [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca).

## SEMINARS

"Analysis of Gene Expression of *Mannheimia haemolytica* A1 in the Natural Bovine Host by Real-Time RT-PCR" is the topic of Sarnitha Sathiamoorthy in the microbiology graduate student seminar series April 25. On May 2, Laura Rice con-

siders "The Role of PvdQ in Pyoverdine Synthesis and Quorum Quenching in *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*." The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in Animal Science and Nutrition 121.

Marvin McInnis of Queen's University, Canada's leading authority on representations of agriculture in historical data, is guest speaker at the Rural History Roundtable April 29 at 2:30 p.m. in MacKinnon 2020. He will examine the focus on agriculture in Canada during and after the First World War. The roundtable is organized under the auspices of the Canada Research Chair in Rural History.

Café Scientifique, hosted by the Faculty of Environmental Sciences in partnership with the Bookshelf, continues May 6 with Prof. John Kironomos, Integrative Biology, discussing "Soil Fertility From Fields to House Plants" at 7 p.m. in the Bookshelf Green Room.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

Teaching Support Services hosts the final new-faculty luncheon of the semester April 30. The discussion topic is "All About Promotion and Tenure." To register, visit [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Richard Mather, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, is April 23 at 9 a.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "Characterizing the Substrate Binding Pocket of the P-glycoprotein Multidrug Efflux Pump." The adviser is Prof. Frances Sharom.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Jennifer Weishar, Chemistry, is April 23 at 10 a.m. in science complex 1504. The thesis is "A Biomarker for Phenol Carcinogen Exposure: Redox and Metal Binding Properties of Oxidized 8-(4'-Hy-

droxyphenyl)-2'-Deoxyguanosine." The adviser is Prof. Richard Manderville.

The final examination of Balpreet Vinepal, an M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology, is April 24 at 1 p.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "Interaction Between Multiple Drug Transport Sites Within the P-glycoprotein Efflux Pump." The adviser is Prof. Frances Sharom.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Robert Paugh, Chemistry, is April 28 at 2 p.m. in science complex 1504. The thesis is "Synthesis of a C8 OTA-dG Adduct and Incorporation Into DNA." The adviser is Prof. Richard Manderville.

The final examination of Mohamed Abdul Carcem, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is April 29 at 9 a.m. in Pathobiology 101. The thesis is "Characterization of Host Responses Following Marek's Disease Virus Infection or Vaccination Against Marek's Disease." The advisers are Profs. Shayan Sharif and Bruce Hunter.

The final examination of PhD candidate Xiaolong Liu, Chemistry, is April 29 at 2 p.m. in MacNaughton 222. The thesis is "NMR Spectroscopy of Silver- and Arsenic-Containing Solids." The adviser is Prof. Glenn Penner.

The final examination of Hyuk Je Lee, a PhD candidate in the Department of Integrative Biology, is April 29 at 2 p.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "Spatial and Temporal Population Genetic Structure of Five Northeastern Pacific Littorinid Gastropod Species." The adviser is Prof. Elizabeth Boulding.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Masai Centre and the AIDS Committee of Guelph and Wellington County host their 15th

Red Ribbon Gala May 3 at the Italian Canadian Club. For ticket information, call Paul Young at 519-763-2255, Ext. 150, or send e-mail to [redribbon@aidsguelph.org](mailto:redribbon@aidsguelph.org).

The Guelph Youth Music Centre hosts Kidsfest, a free community arts festival, May 10 from noon to 3 p.m. The afternoon will feature music, dance, arts and crafts, demonstrations and displays.

The Rotary Club of Guelph is hosting a tree-planting event April 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the GRCA Nature Centre on Conservation Road. This is the first year of a 12-year project to create a 100-acre forest. For more details, visit [www.rotaryclubofguelph.com](http://www.rotaryclubofguelph.com).

The Guelph Concert Band conducted by Henry Janzen presents a "Spring Celebration" May 4 at 3 p.m. at Harcourt United Church. For tickets, call 519-763-3000.

Guelph Musicfest runs May 8 to May 21 at the Guelph Youth Music Centre. This year's theme is "Beethoven and Brahms." For details, visit [www.guelphmusicfest.ca](http://www.guelphmusicfest.ca).

The Guelph Symphony Orchestra holds its second annual spring garage sale May 10 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dublin Street Church. To donate items, call 519-836-6573.

The Guelph Youth Singers led by Linda Beaupré present "Creatures Great and Small" April 26 at 7:30 p.m. at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 519-763-3000. Children and youth aged six to 18 who love to sing are invited to audition for the choir by calling 519-821-8574.

The Volunteer Centre of Guelph/Wellington is celebrating National Volunteer Week April 27 to May 3 with a number of events for volunteers, their friends and family. A free swim kickoff runs April 27 from 4 to

5 p.m. at the West End Community Centre. A community breakfast on volunteering is May 1 from 7 to 9 a.m. at the River Run Centre. For tickets, call 519-822-0912. On May 3, Ed Video Media Arts Centre presents a free screening of three local independent films at 7 p.m. in War Memorial Hall.

The Guelph Arts Council launches its 23rd season of historical walking tours April 27. For tour dates and other information, visit [www.guelpharts.ca/guelphartscouncil](http://www.guelpharts.ca/guelphartscouncil).

The Guelph Public Library is hosting a gala reception May 8 as part of the year-long celebration of its 125th anniversary. Everyone is invited to attend the event, which runs from 8 to 10 p.m. at the Westminster Square branch. The reception will showcase more than 60 of Guelph's celebrated authors and illustrators. Special guest speaker is Prof. Tom King, English and Theatre Studies.

The next meeting of the Guelph Field Naturalists is May 8 at 7:30 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Guest speaker is Carol Ricciuto of the Open Sky Raptor Foundation.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Sexual Assault Support Centre hosts a talk by anti-sexist activist Jackson Katz April 29 at 7:30 p.m. at the Walper Terrace Hotel. For tickets, call 519-571-0121 or visit [www.kwsasc.org](http://www.kwsasc.org).

Guelph Civic Museum marks Founders' Week with "Travels in the Third Dimension: A 3-D Slide Show" by photographer Simon Bell April 23 at 7:30 p.m. Continuing until June 22 at the museum are the exhibitions "Stories From Ontario's Movie Theatres" and "Voices of the Town: Vaudeville in Canada."

The Guelph Creative Arts Association's annual spring art and craft show is April 26 from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Old Quebec Street Mall.

# Learning in the Field

New online agribusiness management program at Kemptville Campus brings the classroom to the farm

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**H**OW DO YOU GET A FARMER to come to school after a long day in the field or barn? Bring the classroom to the farm. That's what U of G's Kemptville Campus is doing with a new online program on the ABCs of agribusiness management.

The new AgriBusiness eCampus will use mostly web-based courses to help farmers and producers upgrade their business skills for competing in an increasingly complex and global market, says Heather Watson, who is co-ordinating the program for Kemptville's Business Development Centre.

Starting this month, students can sign up any time for online short courses. Everything will be available online from registration to

discussion groups, even an "e-library" of online articles, tutorials, videos, books and worksheets. E-forums will allow farmers, producers and industry representatives to share information and discuss their experiences.

Both the electronic discussion forum and the resource library will also be available free to other users not signed up for courses.

Until now, farmers have relied on advisers and hit-and-miss Internet searches for business management information. This new program offers a complete package in one place, says Watson.

"Offering opportunities for online learning and information exchange is ideal for farmers and producers. They don't have time to sit in a classroom, and now they won't have to."

Courses begin this spring in strategic and

business planning, succession planning, farm-safety culture, domestic and global marketing, commodity marketing and human resources management.

Watson says students will get "take-away" tools and ideas for, say, developing a farm-safety program or writing a strategic plan.

"It's bringing the business world into farming. Now more than ever, enhanced business management skills and lifelong learning are necessary for farmers and producers to compete in the global agricultural environment."

The courses were written by agribusiness experts, and organizers expect to add more offerings.

The program was developed by an advisory team with representatives from industry, government, non-governmental organizations

and academia. Organizers also consulted with farmers and producers and farm advisers, as well as alumni of both Kemptville and the Ontario Agricultural College.

Watson says the U of G connection is invaluable in selling the program to prospective students.

"Guelph is considered a hub in terms of agriculture in Ontario especially, but also on a national and international scale."

Farmers and spouses may be eligible for funding to help pay for their courses through the Canadian Agricultural Skills Service Program.

Students can register at [www.agribusinesscampus.com](http://www.agribusinesscampus.com) or through U of G's Office of Open Learning. For more information, call Watson at 613-258-8773.



## U of G, OMAFRA Ink New 10-Year Contract

*\$300-million agreement will further innovative research, education*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

U OF G AND THE ONTARIO MINISTRY of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) have renewed and improved their partnership. The \$300-million agreement announced April 28 will further innovative research and education in agri-food, environmental sustainability, and animal and human health.

"This significant and strategic investment is indicative of the forward-thinking innovation strategy of the provincial government," says president Alastair Summerlee. "The increased commitment will allow the partnership to generate even more than the \$1 billion it has been returning every year for the past 10 years."

The \$300 million covers the first half of the 10-year contract, with a review after five years. This is in addition to the \$56 million in one-time

funding that was allocated to U of G in the 2008 Ontario budget.

"This renewed partnership gets to the heart of what the future of our agri-food sector is all about: research and innovation to better protect our health, economy and environment," says Leona Dombrowsky, minister of agriculture, food and rural affairs.

Agriculture is Ontario's second-largest industry, contributing \$30 billion to the province's economy and employing more than 700,000 people. The sector is also evolving, and the University will explore new research areas, including sustainable food production, environmental sustainability and the bioeconomy.

"As Canada's oldest and largest agricultural school, we have the expertise, influence and significance to lead the initiative," Summerlee says.

"This renewal will allow us to make essential

*Continued on page 10*

## For the Good of Us All

*New OVC facility will benefit both human and animal health*

SO WAS TURNED MAY 2 for a \$70-million facility at the Ontario Veterinary College that will significantly enhance Canada's capacity to prevent diseases and solve health problems at the human/animal interface.

The Pathobiology/Animal Health Laboratory (AHL) building will provide new facilities that support the growing role of veterinarians in research and educational initiatives related to public health. This includes preventing, monitoring and addressing new and emerging diseases, especially zoonotic diseases (those that can jump from animals to humans).

"When it comes to promoting health and treating disease, the University of Guelph has always had a unique perspective," says president Alastair Summerlee. "We are at the intersection

of the human and animal worlds. We are able to apply knowledge gained from both realms to improve and often save lives. This new building will further our ability to identify both the risks we face and the potential benefits and treatments that can be realized from the integrated human and animal community."

The four-storey structure will be built at the corner of Gordon and McGilvray streets, dramatically changing the face of the west side of campus. It will include state-of-the-art lab and testing facilities for the AHL and the Department of Pathobiology, as well as a 120-seat theatre, seminar rooms, teaching labs and office space.

Construction is scheduled to begin this spring and to be completed in 2010. Funding for

*Continued on page 9*



This is an architectural drawing of the new Pathobiology/Animal Health Laboratory building.



### A Sight Better

Liseanne McDonald and her dog, Styx, travelled from their home in Timmins recently to thank the Ontario Veterinary College for the eye surgery that allows Styx to live a normal life despite losing her sight. See story on page 12.

PHOTO BY GRANT MARTIN

## University to Address Fiscal Challenges by Focusing on Strengths

*"We must strive to make strategic investments and maintain quality"*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

PRESIDENT ALASTAIR SUMMERLEE and the University administration continue to work closely with the U of G community to address the structural deficit projected for the 2008/09 budget year.

The current structural deficit stands at \$14.3 million, but it is compounded by inflationary cost increases that are estimated to be between \$9 million and \$12 million annually. With no anticipated government funding for inflation forthcoming for the next three years, the deficit will continue to rise unless steps are taken immediately to address the problem, says Summerlee.

"As I have indicated at town hall gatherings and other recent meetings, this is a significant problem we have to address," he says, "but we are not alone. Other Ontario universities are also facing shortfalls and similar challenges. At Guelph, we must strive to make strategic investments and maintain quality."

The structural deficit has evolved over the past several years as government funding

for operating costs has lagged significantly behind expenses in the face of rising costs for salaries and benefits, post-employment benefits including pensions, deferred maintenance and utilities.

"We must look at ways to reduce costs and raise net revenues, and all of it has to be done in a very tight time frame," Summerlee says.

Board of Governors has asked that the preliminary 2008/2009 Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities operating budget, which goes to the board in June, include a multi-year plan to address the situation.

The president and Prof. Maureen Mancuso, provost and vice-president (academic), have been meeting with vice-presidents, deans, employee groups and student organizations to discuss potential actions and solutions.

"Targets for budget changes have been set for the next year and the following three years to help us in our strategic planning and to achieve fiscal stability," says Mancuso.

*Continued on page 10*



Pianos, books,  
lessons & more! 519.836.8492

218-A Victoria Rd. S.  
Guelph, Ont.  
N1E 5R1  
fax: 519.836.9474  
www.theoctavemc.com



### Campus Hardware Limited

1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Mactag



(est. 1978)

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
DOWNTOWN GUELPH  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

519 836-3810

www.guelphmontessori.com

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program
  - Martial Arts
  - Skating
  - Swimming
  - Yoga
- Musikgarten
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers



"Within the Child Lies  
the Fate of the Future"  
Dr. Maria Montessori



### GOURMET MARKET

Fresh From Our Kitchen . . .

### Ready-Made Take-Out Suppers

- Vegetarian Lasagna
  - Bombay Ginger Chicken
  - Potato & Leek Phyllo Rolls
  - Vegetable & Cheese Stuffed Potatoes
- "Fast food goes gourmet"

### GUELPH POULTRY MARKET

Kortright just off the Hanlon  
Kortright Plaza

519-763-2284

Mon.-Wed. 9-7  
Thurs.-Fri. 9-8  
Sat. 9-6  
Sun. Closed



Michael H.C. McMurray  
Partner



210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com

- Are you happy with your savings and investments?
- Would you like to talk to someone about your financial future?
- With 24 years of financial experience, I can provide a professional second opinion
- Call me today for a free consultation

from the president

# OMAFRA Commitment Something to Celebrate

Editor's note: President Alastair Summerlee invites comments on his column at president@uoguelph.ca.

LAST WEEK I ATTENDED AN EVENT to celebrate the University and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) renewing and improving our partnership, which began 11 years ago.

It provided an opportunity for reflection on the magnitude of what we've accomplished and the challenges that lie ahead. I came away with a fresh perspective and rejuvenated enthusiasm.

When our partnership with OMAFRA began in 1997, neither the University nor the provincial ministry knew exactly what to expect from the relationship or where it would take us. It started out as a simple idea: let the University take over the delivery of OMAFRA research, education and laboratory programs — including research stations and three agricultural colleges — and make some 500 ministry staff U of G employees. For its part, OMAFRA would provide about \$50 million a year in financial support.

Fast-forward a decade and a year.

The partnership now returns more than \$1.5 billion to the Ontario economy annually. It also makes many contributions that cannot be fiscally quantified, like improving the environment and creating and promoting better public health policies. That's according to an independent economic analysis conducted late last year by Deloitte and Touche LLP.

Our relationship with OMAFRA is also beld up as a model of a creative, effective government/university liaison, and we celebrated this fact during the event, along with unveiling the details of the new contract.

OMAFRA has committed to continuing this relationship for another decade, investing \$300 million in the next five years alone. This is on top of \$56 million in one-time funding the ministry allocated to U of G in the 2008 Ontario budget.

I already mentioned how much of an economic impact the partnership has on an annual basis. This, coupled with the fact that agriculture is Ontario's second-largest industry, means the investment is guaranteed to produce a healthy financial return.

It also shows the faith the province has in U of G in terms of continuing to play a fundamental leadership role in sustaining and enhancing Canada's ever-important agri-food industry.

But more important, by making this commitment, the provincial government is investing directly in the health, well-being and prosperity of Canadians, because the research conducted at Guelph affects people living in Ontario, Canada and beyond.

The U of G/OMAFRA partnership has, for example, produced omega-3 eggs and DHA milk, has improved livestock genetics and has resulted in pesticide and herbicide reduction. It also helped spawn the Environmental Farm Plan, a voluntary education and awareness program in which farmers evaluate the state of their farms and learn about best-practice methodologies and risk.

Our researchers also discovered how to derive energy from renewable plants and animal resources, to

modify plants to produce pharmaceuticals and designer proteins, and to use plants to remove heavy metals from the environment.

We also developed biodiversity "bar-coding" technology that could revolutionize food safety through simple methods of surveillance and detection.

In addition, we've tested and developed nutraceuticals and functional foods that will build better health and boost disease prevention for all Ontarians.

Outside of Canada, U of G scientists helped Chinese farmers breed new strains of wheat using Canadian parent stocks. This resulted in increased yields of 30 per cent, contributing to China's ability to feed its people.

Our researchers have also travelled to other parts of the globe, giving freely of their time and resources to help developing countries with sustainability issues. Now nations around the world rely on our scientists for guidance and help in this area.

This is just a sampling of the many ways the U of G/OMAFRA partnership has helped address multiple and complex needs related to food and agriculture.

There is so much that can and needs to be done. The agricultural sector continues to evolve and is being looked at to provide solutions to a growing number of challenges, from producing food at a low cost to making greater contributions to human health to providing industrial raw materials and biofuels.

And U of G has a central and critical role to play in agriculture's future. As Canada's oldest and largest agricultural school, we have the history and expertise to lead the understanding of how the mandate for agriculture is changing.

The renewal and improvement of our already prosperous partnership with OMAFRA will allow us to further produce innovative research and education. For example, we will lead efforts to explore new research areas that include sustainable food production, environmental sustainability and the bioeconomy.

Guelph researchers will explore the use of recyclable materials made from renewable farm crops. Crop-based materials offer great potential for use in a growing range of products, including packaging, auto parts and building materials.

Some of our leading scientists from across campus are teaming up to investigate how to turn corn husks, stalks and leaves as well as straw, switchgrass and even wood chips into usable biofuels.

There will also be activities aimed at providing improved methods for addressing emerging diseases, including surveillance and testing, as well as initiatives that address public health issues related to the transmission of diseases from animals to humans.

In addition, we will be placing greater emphasis on research that will help us understand the links between food ingredients and health.

Knowing that we can count on another 10 years of support from the provincial government gives us the assurance, financial and otherwise, that we will have the resources to continue with our pioneering activities.

It also means that all Ontarians will continue to receive the social, economic, environmental and health benefits this partnership has produced.

That is something worth celebrating.

The next issue of *At Guelph* will appear May 21.  
Copy deadline is May 13.

at GUELPH

Editor Barbara Chance  
b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca

Design Peter Enneson

Production Linda Graham  
l.graham@exec.uoguelph.ca

Advertising Scott Anderson  
theaderson@difference.rogers.com

Director Chuck Cunningham  
c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca

At Guelph is published every two weeks  
by Communications and Public Affairs,  
Level 4, University Centre, University of  
Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.

Inquiries: 519-824-4120

Editorial: Ext. 56580

Distribution: Ext. 56581

Advertising: Ext. 56580

www.uoguelph.ca/atguide

Classified: Ext. 56581

Fax: 519-824-7962

Website: www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph

Articles may be reprinted  
with credit to *At Guelph*.

Subscriptions  
\$25 (includes GST);  
\$30 outside Canada  
ISSN 08364478



# CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON MACNAUGHTON COURTYARD

Construction begins this week on the MacNaughton Building exterior courtyard behind the University Bookstore and across from the Hutt Building. MacNaughton has had serious water penetration issues, and this project will remedy the situation, says Paul Mesman, manager of construction co-ordination. Crews will be reworking the area and replacing the exterior wall caulking to ensure the building is no longer affected, he says. In addition, a barrier-free entranceway will be built. The work is expected to continue through most of the summer. The project involves a lot of concrete removal, which means noise levels will be high at times, says Mesman. "The patience and understanding of the U of G community are appreciated."

# ACADEMIC OPEN HOUSES SET

U of G's Admissions Office is hosting open houses May 12 to 15 for admitted students and their families who want to obtain more information about their chosen academic degree program. Each day will focus on specific degree programs and will offer information sessions, sample lectures and tours. Participants will also be able to meet U of G faculty and students. The schedule is as follows: May 12: B.Comm.; May 13: BAS, B.Sc. and B.Sc.(Tech.); May 14: BBRM, B.Comp., B.Sc.(Agr.), B.Sc.(Env.) and B.Eng.; and May 15: BA and B.A.Sc. For more details, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/admissions/openhouse](http://www.uoguelph.ca/admissions/openhouse) or call Ext. 58713.

# BORÉAL, ALFRED ANNOUNCE NEW FIVE-YEAR PARTNERSHIP

Collège Boréal in Sudbury and Guelph's Alfred Campus recently renewed for another five years a partnership that primarily involves the two-year veterinary technician training program. The program is offered both at Boréal's New Liskeard campus and at Alfred. Last February, Alfred received its complete accreditation from the Ontario Association of Veterinary Technicians.

# TREE PLANTING AIMS TO COUNTER IMPACT OF GLOBAL LEARNERS' AIR TRAVEL

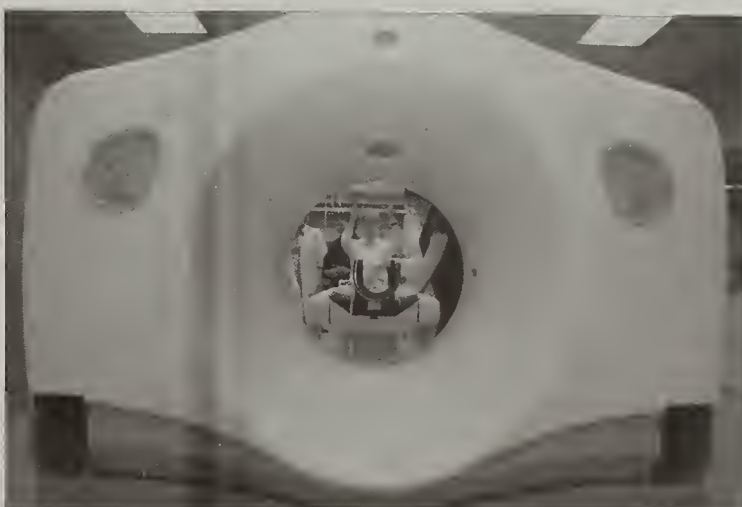
To help "carbon-neutralize" the environmental impact of international air travel, a dozen participants in the Guelph Global Learner Program planted 500 trees in the Arboretum April 21. The event was initiated by Student Life in partnership with the Arboretum, which supplied land, and the County of Wellington's Green Legacy Tree Nursery, which provided the trees.

# YARD SALE TO RAISE MONEY FOR PLAYGROUND UPGRADES

The U of G Child-Care and Learning Centre is holding a yard sale May 10 from 8 a.m. to noon to raise money for renovations to the infant and preschool/kindergarten playgrounds. The centre welcomes donations of new or gently used items. To donate items, contact Gabriele Polsterer at Ext. 52682 or [childcare@uoguelph.ca](mailto:childcare@uoguelph.ca).

# OVC's New CT Facility Gets Up and Running

*College at the forefront of veterinary imaging in North America*



OVC's new CT scanner was on display at an open house held April 25 to celebrate completion of the CT unit. Seen through the "donut" is Meg Peiton, executive assistant to Wayne Coveyduck, executive director of the OVC Teaching Hospital.

PHOTO BY BARRY GUNN

BY BARRY GUNN

**C**ONSTRUCTION WORKERS are still adding finishing touches, but the OVC Teaching Hospital's new CT imaging suite is now operational, and major renovations to the radiology department are almost complete.

The new core imaging facilities, along with a complete Picture Archiving and Communications System (PACS) and a new Hospital Information System, will improve service to clients and referring veterinarians and lead to new opportunities in research and learning, says project co-ordinator Prof. Stephanie Nykamp, Clinical Studies.

"For us, the main focus is on client service, although I know of several research projects in the works that will likely proceed now that we have in-house CT capability," she says.

An open house was held April 25 for faculty and staff to celebrate completion of the CT unit, located in what was formerly a large-animal surgery dating back to the 1950s. The facility includes a control room and conference room with a lead-shielded viewing area to maximize learning opportunities for students and guests.

Down the hall in the small-animal clinic, the radiology department has been reconfigured to accommodate a new conventional X-ray machine with fluoroscopy, new workstations and office space.

Nykamp says that, apart from a few glitches, the renovation proceeded more smoothly than she had envisioned.

"Our technicians have been outstanding in getting the job done despite the upheaval. I'm very pleased with how things have gone so far,

and I will be ecstatic when it's all finished."

Having both CT and MRI facilities puts the OVC Teaching Hospital at the forefront of veterinary imaging in North America, she says. Although both provide essential and often complementary diagnostic information—in some cases, a patient will have back-to-back MRI and CT scans—CT has advantages when examining head trauma or the chest cavity or when trying to manage treatments for particular types of cancerous tumours.

"The biggest advantage is speed," says Nykamp, noting that a CT scan might take 15 minutes, whereas an MRI scan can take an hour or more. "In practice, this means that we can diagnose and treat a patient under one anesthetic, saving time and money. That will be a real asset to our clientele."

# Scholarship of Teaching, Learning Focus of Talks

*Annual event an opportunity to connect, share, learn and celebrate accomplishments*

**F**ROM CAPSTONE COURSES and small-group learning methods to curriculum renewal and women in academia and science, this year's Teaching and Learning Innovations Conference will cover a broad range of topics as instructors and teaching assistants gather to network and share their insights May 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Rozanski Hall.

"We tend to work from particular disciplinary perspectives, and this conference allows us to connect, share and learn from those outside our discipline," says Nancy Schmidt, director of U of G's Learning Commons, who has been part of the con-

ference's organizing committee for the past five years.

"It's also a day for people to come together to celebrate their accomplishments and discuss the issues of teaching and learning that matter to them."

The theme of the 21st annual conference is "The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning." The keynote speaker is Richard Gale, a visiting scholar and educational consultant from Douglas College in British Columbia. A former director of the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Gale has more than 20 years of

experience as an educator in higher education.

The day will also feature a panel discussion, workshops and more than 30 presentations by members of U of G's teaching community. In addition, the 2008 Provost's Award for Innovation in Teaching will be presented.

The conference is organized by the Learning Commons, the Office of Open Learning and Teaching Support Services in partnership with this year's sponsor, the Ontario Agricultural College. For more information and to register, visit [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

# people

# ECONOMICS PROFESSOR GIVES TALK IN CYPRUS

Prof. Brian Ferguson, Economics, gave the annual economic lecture hosted by the Cyprus Economic Society, the Bank of Cyprus and the Faculty of Economics and Management at the University of Cyprus this week at Bank of Cyprus headquarters in Nicosia. He discussed "National Health Systems: Incentives, Problems and Best Practices."

# BATTER UP AT ROGERS CENTRE

Baseball Gryphons Adam Reynolds and Nick Swerdlyk were part of an elite group of athletes chosen to participate in the annual OUA All-Star Showcase May 4 at the Rogers Centre in Toronto. Reynolds, a second-year infield player, and Swerdlyk, a third-year centre fielder, played in the big-league stadium following the conclusion of the Toronto Blue Jays home game.

The following appointments have recently been announced at U of G:

- Lee Bennard, manager, infrastructure programs, Research Financial Services
- Carla Bradshaw, co-op/career co-ordinator, Co-operative Education and Career Services
- Paula Brazier, secretary, School of Engineering
- Jane Colwell, manager, strategic projects and infrastructure programs, Office of Research
- Hugh Clark, B.Comm. program counsellor, College of Management and Economics (CME)
- Emily Dabinnett, bioinformatics interfacing systems support, Laboratory Services
- Dave Easter, manager of marketing and communications, Department of Athletics
- Joanne Emeneau, manager, academic programs, CME
- Elaine Gowing, front-counter clerk, Graduate Program Services
- Dwight Griffith, porter, Student Housing Services
- Andrew Harris, scientist, Laboratory Services
- Frebbs Hoffmeyer, assistant counsellor, CME
- Tara Lambe, textbook purchasing clerk, Hospitality Services
- Daniel Leon-Velarde, e-learning technology assistant, Office of Open Learning
- Louise McIntyre, secretary to the chair, Department of Business
- John Tartt, advancement research officer, Alumni Affairs and Development
- Lisa Vespasiano, diagnostic imaging administrative clerk and PACS administrator, OVC Teaching Hospital.

# IN MEMORIAM

Donald Grieve, a retired faculty member and former chair in the Department of Animal and Poultry Science, died April 8 at age 73. A two-time graduate of OAC and a PhD graduate of Cornell University, he taught at U of G from 1957 to 1994. He is survived by his wife, Karen; three sons, Craig, Douglas and David; and six grandchildren.



# 'Practise Like You Play'

BY TERESA PITMAN

WHEN KEITH MASON arrived in Canada as a 19-year-old, he figured his soccer days were over. "In West Bromwich, England, where I grew up, soccer was the sport, and I was a big fan," he says. "When I decided to move here, I knew soccer wasn't especially popular in Canada, so I thought this would be the end of the game for me."

He couldn't have been more wrong. Today, Mason's life is soccer, soccer, soccer all the time.

As coach of U of G's men's soccer team, he is kept busy working with athletes, planning practices and coaching games. He's also a staff coach with the Ontario Soccer Association, working with young athletes and up-and-coming young coaches. In his free time, he likes to play — yes, you guessed it — soccer.

When Mason arrived in Canada in 1981, he found work as an office manager for a company at the Toronto airport but couldn't quite give up on his favourite sport. He joined the Guelph Soccer Club so he could play with a team and was eventually tapped to coach some of the younger players. "Once I started coaching, I fell in love with it," he says.

In 1990, he was hired to coach the women's soccer team at U of G. Seven years later, he moved over to the Gryphon men's team.

"Both have unique challenges," he says. "I had some very successful years with the women's team, and we're working to achieve the same with the men's."

For Mason, work and pleasure are happily combined in his job.

"I absolutely love what I do. I wouldn't want to do anything else. This is such a fantastic place to work, and you get so much support, it really motivates you to work harder."

The rhythm of his days on cam-



Gryphon soccer coach Keith Mason, shown here at the stadium used by the Walsall Football Club in England, says he's eager to implement the new ideas gained from his trip. PHOTO COURTESY OF KEITH MASON

pus varies with the seasons. Right now, for example, he's gearing up to run summer soccer camps for some 250 children aged seven to 14. Mason hires and trains the camp counsellors, plans the schedule and generally organizes the four-week program. By the time that's all finished, he'll be recruiting players for the University team, which begins practising in the middle of August.

"That's the start of my busiest time," he says.

The fall semester brings daily team practices, lots of planning, one-on-one discussions with players about their work on the field and in the classroom, and travel to games

around southwestern Ontario.

The soccer season ends around mid-November, and the players take a few weeks off to focus on exams and enjoy the holiday break. But that's just a short lull because, come January, Mason expects his players to get busy again with indoor soccer practices and tournaments that last until the end of the semester.

Meanwhile, Mason is also involved year-round with the Ontario Soccer Association, teaching coaching skills to new youth coaches. "I just spent a weekend providing 22 hours of training over two days."

The pace isn't likely to slow down if his predictions are correct. He sees

soccer becoming increasingly popular across Canada as well as at U of G. "I see it becoming a major sport."

Despite his many years of experience as a coach, Mason is eager to keep developing his skills. "I'm very interested in the science of coaching, in learning better and more effective approaches."

That's why he headed to England recently to spend two weeks observing and working with some of Britain's best professional soccer clubs (in England, it's called football). "If you want to be the best, learn from the best," says Mason, who notes that the trip wouldn't have been possible without the support of the De-

partment of Athletics and its director, Tom Kendall. "Professional development is very important to both Tom and the department, and I am grateful for their commitment to helping their staff continue to grow."

While in England, Mason spent five days observing the Everton Football Club, a highly ranked professional team in Liverpool; four days observing the Walsall Football Club; and one final day with the West Bromwich club from his hometown. This gave him an opportunity to see teams at different levels of competition.

What lessons did he learn?

"Everton is very scientific about coaching," says Mason. "They use video a lot, and they know how far each player has run during a game, how many times a player has passed the ball, every detail of the play. They analyze every game and every player and give them feedback on how they're doing and how they can improve."

Improving the regular feedback he gives players is just one of the ideas Mason brought back from his trip. In fact, he has so many new ideas to apply that he says he's finding it hard to wait until August to start implementing them.

Mason was also impressed with how enthusiastically the English players embraced the motto: "Practise like you play."

"The level of intensity of the players every time they stepped on the field was powerful. Every practice, even when it was just kids practising, was like they were playing in the World Cup finals. That's the kind of desire and commitment that produce top athletes."

In fact, he says, "I think that idea — giving your best every time — applies to everything we do in life, on and off the soccer field."

## From the Bottom Up

From a Communist town council to French-immersion supporters, new book explores grassroots social efforts in Canada over past 80 years

BY TERESA PITMAN

IT'S THE 1930s. The Great Depression is in full swing, times are tough, and the Communist Party is officially illegal in Canada. But it's during this time that a Communist municipal government is elected in the most unlikely of places — a small town in southwestern Alberta called Blairmore. Of course, the town councillors don't call themselves Communists — thus getting around the pesky legal issues — but once elected, they change the town's tax system, make the anniversary of the Russian Revolution an official holiday and refuse to celebrate Remembrance Day.

"They found the chink in the armour that let them achieve their goals," says Prof. Matthew Hayday, History, co-editor of the newly published *Mobilizations, Protests and Engagements: Canadian Perspectives on Social Movements*, where Blairmore's story is told. The book is a collection of articles and essays about various grassroots attempts to effect change in Canada over the past 80 years.

"The Blairmore history, told by Kyle Franz, a PhD student in history at Queen's University, is a fascinating story, especially because Alberta is known today to be so conservative," says Hayday.

But the Communist revolution in Blairmore enjoyed only temporary success, he adds. Although the councillors were re-elected once by acclamation, their successors in the next election reversed most of the changes.

A similar reversal is being seen in the case of French-immersion classes for New Brunswick students — the topic of Hayday's chapter in the book, titled "Mad at Hatfield's Tea Party." The historian's interest in the issues surrounding bilingualism in Canada led him to explore the experiences of an organization called Canadian Parents for French. This group of New Brunswick parents became politically active when their local school board began turning away children whose parents wanted them in French-immersion classes because only a limited number of spots had been allotted.

"My article is a case study on how this group ultimately took its fight to get the local

school board to open up more spaces for French-immersion students to the provincial and federal governments," says Hayday. "Their protests became the basis for new French-immersion policies set by the Ministry of Education. It shows how a small local group can actually change policy for an entire province."

The title "Mad at Hatfield's Tea Party" refers to an incident when the protesting parents showed up at the provincial legislature and were invited in by then-premier Richard Hatfield and served tea using the elegant legislative china.

"I think it says something about how differently people in social movements are treated depending on how they are perceived," says Hayday. "Most protesters don't get invited in for tea with the premier."

Today, however, members of Canadian Parents for French are seeing their hard-won victories being eroded, he says.

"Around the same time the book came out, the New Brunswick government announced that it was planning to drop French immersion in grades 1 to 4 starting in September, despite

the research showing how important it is to start early. I did a lot of interviews with the New Brunswick media that week. And now Canadian Parents for French is remobilizing to fight these changes and not let the organization's past achievements slip away."

*Mobilizations, Protests and Engagements* is based on a March 2007 conference Hayday helped organize while he was doing a post-doctoral stint at Mount Allison University. The book is interdisciplinary, including contributions from researchers in sociology, political science, history, women's studies and education.

If there's a lesson to be distilled from this book, he thinks it might be in a quote from Laurie Arron, an activist who worked for EGale (Equality for Gays and Lesbians Everywhere): "Never let the perfect be the enemy of the good." In other words, says Hayday, if you're seeking social change, you'll achieve more when you "do the best you can, work quickly, don't get bogged down in the process and don't hold out for ideal solutions and therefore end up with nothing. Be pragmatic."



# A Finger on the Consumer Pulse

Researchers launch first-ever large-scale consumer panel

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**U**OF G RESEARCHERS have designed a way to collect information and track changes in Canadians' eating habits and food perceptions by developing the first-ever large-scale consumer panel dedicated to research.

The Guelph Food Panel — made up of 2,000 people — will allow researchers to survey participants with 24 hours' notice and to assess changes in their responses over time.

"There is no other instrument like this in Canada," says Prof. John Cranfield of the Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics. "We can see how people's concerns and perceptions about food and their consumption patterns change over time."

Previous methods provided only a snapshot of information because researchers were surveying a certain group of people at a certain time, he says. With the panel, members can be surveyed on the same topic years apart to see how their views have changed.

The panel can also give researchers immediate consumer responses to any food crisis that might occur, says Prof. Spencer Henson, who helped develop the panel with Cranfield and post-doctoral research associate Oliver Masakure.

"If there's a food scare tonight, we can send them a survey within 24 hours," says Henson. "This system allows us to have our finger on the

pulse of Canadians with respect to food."

Panel members will receive half a dozen online surveys a year on topics relevant to Canada's food system. The panel is made up of people from the Guelph area, but they were recruited based on age, gender and level of education to ensure the group is representative of the Canadian population, says Henson.

Partly funded by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and the Advanced Food Materials Network, the panel will be used by researchers to examine consumers' perceptions of the food system and their level of confidence in such things as local farms, imported food and grocery chains.

Researchers will also be looking at consumers' responsiveness to new foods, their diet, whether they're trying to eat healthier, what types of food they believe to be healthier and perceived obstacles to healthy eating.

As consumers become more informed about food issues, it's important for researchers to assess how this is affecting what people are buying, says Cranfield.

"With this information, we can inform the food system and the government about the views of Canadians towards food. Our intent with this research is to find ways of making the food system work better."

Researchers are still accepting panel members. Send e-mail to foodpanel@uoguelph.ca.



Prof. Lindsay Robinson hoists a glass of the fat cocktail she helped develop to enable researchers to better study the body's response to fats. With her is PhD student Mark Dekker.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## Gotta Run and Eat!

CBS prof studies how exercise affects body's response to fatty foods

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**H**ITTING THE GYM before eating a high-fat meal can help relieve some of the guilt, but a U of G researcher is examining whether exercising a day in advance can also help reduce the negative effects fatty foods can have on the body.

"It's difficult to get people to cut out all high-fat meals in their diet, so we want to see if exercise might help the way the body responds to these fatty foods by looking at lipid and hormone levels in the blood," says Prof. Lindsay Robinson, Human Health and Nutritional Sciences.

After a person ingests a high-fat meal, the lipids in the blood will typically rise and stay elevated for hours, which is a risk factor for cardiovascular disease, says Robinson.

"Exercising the day before may help prevent lipid levels from skyrocketing and therefore reduce the stress that eating high-fat meals can

have on the body."

Instead of loading up on fast food, the subjects in this study will be drinking a newly designed fat cocktail made only with lipids.

"Previous studies that have tested the body's response to fat have used fast food or other fatty foods, but when you ingest a typical high-fat meal, you are also ingesting various carbohydrates and proteins that can influence the body's response," says Robinson, who helped develop the fat cocktail.

"We wanted to develop a pure fat beverage so we could isolate the body's response to fat and have better control over the types and amount of fat being ingested."

In an earlier study, she tested the effectiveness of the fat cocktail on males with normal lipid levels. The results, which were recently published in the *Journal of Applied Physiology, Nutrition and Metabolism*, showed the drink was successful in

elevating blood lipid levels over an eight-hour period after ingestion.

In the current study, she aims to discover if exercise can help alleviate the negative response in subjects with high blood lipid levels and what the mechanism might be.

The subjects, who are men between the ages of 40 and 70, will either walk on a treadmill for 60 minutes or remain sedentary the day before drinking the cocktail.

"Although it's expected that exercise will have a beneficial impact on how subjects' blood lipids respond to the fat cocktail, it's important to note that the benefits of one session of exercise won't last forever," says Robinson. "People need to exercise regularly to maintain the favourable effects."

Researchers are still accepting participants for the study. For information, contact Robinson's laboratory at Ext. 56967 or Mark Dekker at mdekker@uoguelph.ca.

## Biologist Discusses Work on Antibodies

**W**ORK BY Prof. Azad Kaushik, Molecular and Cellular Biology (MCB), on the genetic origin of cattle antibodies was spotlighted at the annual meeting of the American Association of Immunologists last month in San Diego. Kaushik was an invited speaker at the meeting, where he also co-chaired a session on comparative immunoglobulin structure and function.

He discovered these antibodies — among the largest known — in 1998 with then graduate student Surinder Saini. Another grad student, Farbod Shojaei, conducted followup studies.

Madhuri Koti, a recent MCB PhD graduate, has found the cow genes that produce these antibodies.

Koti and Kaushik have engineered antibodies against bovine herpes virus type 1. Working with Prof. Eva Nagy, Pathobiology, the researchers have tested the efficacy of engineered antibodies for treating respiratory and genital diseases caused by this virus in cattle. Those diseases cost the Canadian cattle industry about \$100 million a year.

Kaushik says these antibodies are unusually large, making them easier to work with. Genetic engineering to manipulate these molecules may yield new diagnostic tools, drugs or therapies for use in cattle, he says.

His work has been supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs.



brock road nursery  
Garden Centre & Gift Shoppe



UNIQUE PERENNIALS, DISTINCT ANNUALS, GORGEOUS PLANTERS & HANGING BASKETS, 1ST QUALITY ONTARIO TREES & SHRUBS, PREMIUM SOILS & MULCHES - PICKUP & DELIVERY. BEAUTIFUL GIFT SHOPPE, INSPIRING DISPLAYS & MORE. ALL IN ONE STOP!

519.836.5010 . [www.brockroadnursery.com](http://www.brockroadnursery.com)

May 11<sup>th</sup> is Mother's Day!

Choose from 100s of great gift ideas, including: European Styled Hanging Baskets & Planters, Home & Garden Décor, & Much More!





# Groundwater Specialist Digs Up Answers

*Senior Industrial Research Chair studies movement of chlorinated solvents, pathogenic viruses through groundwater in fractured rock*

BY REBECCA KENDALL

**P**ROF. BETH PARKER has been making a big splash since joining U of G's School of Engineering in 2006 and becoming a Senior Industrial Research Chair (IRC). The chair brings with it more than \$5 million in funding over five years from industry partners, municipalities and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council. They're all banking that Parker, an environmental engineer specializing in groundwater research, will dig up answers to some tough questions.

"I'm honoured to receive the IRC and see this as a great opportunity to work with my sponsors, colleagues and students to advance the state of the science," says Parker, who is studying chlorinated solvents, which are oily liquids frequently used in commercial and industrial manufacturing.

Among other issues, she is examining how these chemicals travel through groundwater in fractured rock, where they're coming from, how they affect well-water supplies and whether they can be easily removed or destroyed underground.

Her interest in groundwater contamination goes beyond chlorinated solvents to include pathogenic viruses that are particularly prone to travelling quickly in fractured rock. This research is done at contaminated sites in Ontario and elsewhere.

These issues are of particular interest in southern Ontario because the region sits on top of sedimentary rock, she says.

"These chemicals easily invade our freshwater resources. Since the Second World War, they've been used in almost all types of industrial and commercial operations. They're even found in household cleaners. What we've realized in the last 20 years, as we've started looking for these chemicals, is that they're everywhere. They're hard to get out of the groundwater because of their low drinking-water limits compared with their aqueous solubilities. As a result, they're going to be with us for a long time."

Chlorinated solvents, some of which are carcinogenic, are finding their way into supply wells and into people's homes, says Parker.



"Water is an important resource, and many people in my profession talk about it becoming the new oil," says Prof. Beth Parker, who studies how chemicals travel through groundwater in fractured sedimentary rock.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

Owners of the problem — commercial and industrial property owners — have been under pressure for a number of years to understand and remediate these problems, but it's expensive to study the subsurface, and quick solutions aren't readily available, she says.

"A lot of the existing water problems we're dealing with may actually be 20, 30 and 40 years old. Understanding the movement of these contaminants becomes directly relevant to the decisions that people who use them in their business have to make. Regulations exist that require owners with contaminated prop-

erties to remove the pollutants, and they need to know how to do that. I'm working in fractured sedimentary rock because it's one of the least explored environments to date, and there are opportunities to change our conceptual model for how we understand the processes."

About 20 years ago, Parker was sitting on the other side of the issue as a project manager for Eastman Kodak in Rochester, N.Y. Originally from Perry, N.Y., she earned a B.Sc. in economics and aquatic environments from Allegheny College and an M.Sc. in engineering

from Duke University before joining Kodak.

"They had problems with chemicals in sedimentary rock, and as a project manager, I was responsible for helping Kodak make decisions about how to investigate and how to manage its bedrock contamination problem. I realized the answers weren't obvious or available, so I became interested in the research side of things."

Her interest in pursuing a research career was what brought her to Canada. After completing a PhD in earth sciences at the University of Waterloo, she taught and did research there for 11 years.

Her career has included working with contaminated groundwater in sand and gravel aquifers, clayey aquitards and now in sedimentary rock.

"Water is an important resource, and many people in my profession talk about it becoming the new oil. It's scarce around the world, and locally it can also be very scarce, especially if poorly managed. But because we live in a water-rich part of the world, this might not be readily apparent to many of us. With the population of the whole region growing, we're beginning to feel the pressure to properly manage our groundwater resource. We have a culture where we think we'll never run out of water, and our mindset needs to evolve."

Parker, who moved to Guelph five years ago, notes that local citizens haven't given up on the city's groundwater supply. "Guelph is trying to grow smart and be self-sustainable, and that's exciting."

She believes her work will affect the way the scientific community approaches site investigations and remediation at sites with groundwater contamination. Besides finding answers to the riddles that plague this field, she is working to develop new conceptual models, along with new tools and methods for characterizing these sites.

"The ultimate goal is to better understand these sites and the risks posed by these contaminants due to their behaviour in the subsurface. Things will improve as we understand the nature of the problem in more detail and learn to factor this information into the decision-making process."

## E-Tourism Modules Teach Students to Log In and Go

*HTM teams up with travel booking firm to enhance textbook learning about e-tourism and e-marketing*

BY REBECCA KENDALL

**I**F YOU GO ONLINE and search for the words "online travel," within seconds you'll have information from more than 79 million travel websites, including Expedia, Yahoo! and Hotwire. Each year, an estimated five million Canadian travellers go online and book everything from flights and accommodations to entertainment and ground transportation.

It's the new face of the hospitality and tourism industry, and starting this fall students in the School of Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) will enhance their textbook learning about e-tourism and e-marketing with a series of new hands-on modules designed to set them apart from the competition once they hit the workforce.

"We haven't seen this kind of hands-on application at the univer-

sity level," says Prof. Statia Elliot, who notes that these modules will fill a gap identified by the school's industry partners. "We've been told that it would be incredibly beneficial if our graduates had this knowledge and could help their employers with e-management."

Recognizing the importance of these skills, HTM has partnered with Meridian Reservation Systems to create a series of four e-tourism modules that will be ready for September. The modules, which will bolster the school's new e-tourism curriculum, will initially be used in marketing, destination management, operations and strategic management courses and will feature video- and web-based training, says Elliot.

An introductory module will cover consumer-focused information by showing students how customers book online and how they

navigate the system to find the information they need. Other modules will allow students to view the back end of the system and work from the perspective of the hotel or airline.

*"It's critical for students to gain experience with putting attractive travel packages together and marketing them to target audiences."*

They'll also learn how booking information is passed from the consumer to the central reservation system or the destination management system, depending on whether they're booking individual travel products or entire packages.

"It's critical for students to gain experience with putting attractive travel packages together and marketing them to target audiences if they want to set their organization apart among highly competitive destinations," says HTM professor Chris Choi, who teaches destination management.

Technology has revolutionized and vastly expanded the possibilities for the distribution, management and marketing of tourism and hospitality products, says Prof. Marion Joppe, HTM research chair. "We want our graduates to have the knowledge and skills required to effectively work in today's e-tourism environment."

In addition to providing actual booking data (company and customer names won't be shared with students), Meridian, whose site receives more than four million hits and 100,000 bookings annually, is

offering students access to some of its customer data. This includes geographic location, length of travel, booking rates, frequency, how far in advance consumers are booking their trips, and the types of products they're buying as part of their travel packages.

"Right away we can look at high-yield and low-yield markets and target marketing efforts to areas that are higher-yield," says Elliot. "These are rich data that can support marketing decisions and give us a good sense of our key markets."

All this additional information will allow students to develop a greater understanding of how hotel and tourism operators market to the consumer, she says.

"It's a growing way of doing business, and it'll give our students, who are already highly employable, more marketability and allow them to bring more to the industry."



# First and Last an Icelander

*Visiting educator will take distance education lessons from Guelph home to Iceland*

BY TERESA PITMAN

**W** E ALL DEFINE "ESSENTIALS" a little differently. For example, motorcycles might not be at the top of everyone's list, but one of the first things Adam Oskarsson did when he arrived in Canada last August was buy another Harley-Davidson. (He'd left his other one back home in Iceland.)

"We're making the most of our time here," says Oskarsson, who is spending a year in Guelph with his wife and family while working at Computing and Communications Services.

The Harley's essential because "making the most" of his time includes a trip down Route 66 on his bike. "I'm turning 50, and my wife gave me the trip as a birthday present," says Oskarsson, who hit the road last week and reports via e-mail that he's "having the time of my life." Over the winter, he and his family visited Florida and Myrtle Beach using more conventional methods of travel.

Of course, his year here isn't all about travel opportunities. His sabbatical was arranged through the Iceland-Guelph Institute, and he's interested in learning from U of G's experience with distance education and online courses.

Formalized in 2004, the institute builds on a 25-year relationship between Guelph and four post-secondary institutions in Iceland — Hólar University College, the University of Iceland, the University of Akureyri and Hvanneyri Agricultural University. Through the institute, students, faculty and researchers at all five universities can participate in exchange programs, interdisciplinary research and distance education programs.

Oskarsson is a teacher and system administrator at the University of Akureyri, which opened in 1987 with just 25 students but has grown rapidly and now has about 1,400. He is also system administrator at Verkmenntaskólinn á Akureyri, a local high school. Opened in 1984, the school has 1,200 day students and another 700 or 800 enrolled in distance education.

"We were pioneers in distance education at the high school level," he says. "That first year, we had only six students; now we have about 800 in many different countries. At one point, our program spanned 16 time zones."

Oskarsson says his U of G experience has given him the opportunity to talk to a lot of people about distance education.

"It's good to see that, although the University of Guelph is so much bigger, you are facing some of the same problems and questions I deal with in Iceland. Of course, here you have more staff and more expertise to work on the solutions."

He first visited Canada more than 25 years ago to attend the University of Toronto. He knew then that he'd want to come back.

"It's been a goal for me and my wife for the past 10 years," he says, adding that he loves the easy access to the Canadian outdoors and the friendly community.



Iceland, though, will always be home. "I am first and last an Icelander." He's proud of his homeland's unique culture and dramatic landscapes. "Always when I live somewhere else, I miss Iceland — it keeps pulling me back."

He says much about Iceland is different than most North Americans are used to, including the way people are named. There, parents and children don't share the same last name; instead, parents pass on their first name to form their children's surname. Oskarsson's father's name is Oskar, and his own sons are named Oskar Adamsson and Asgeir Adamsson. His daughter's name is Lily Adamsdottir, and he says his wife, Hugrun Helgadóttir, would never change her last name to match his because it wouldn't make sense.

One misconception Oskarsson would like to clear up about his homeland involves the country's weather. "Iceland is not really as cold as people imagine," he says. And the name is deliberately misleading.

When a group of rebels were thrown out of Norway back in 930, they escaped to an unnamed island in the North Atlantic

Ocean. They loved the country, which was completely unsettled at the time, but named it Iceland to discourage other settlers from following them. When they explored further west and found a much colder, snow-covered land, they named it Greenland to attract people there instead.

Iceland is about one-tenth the size of Ontario and has a population of about 313,000. After many years of isolation from much of the rest of the world, the country has experienced rising levels of immigration in recent years, says Oskarsson.

There are good reasons to move there, he adds. In 2007, Iceland was named the most developed country in the world, according to the Human Development Index. Iceland was also the first democratic country to directly elect a female president, Vigdís Finnbogadóttir.

"I was excited to find out that she has an honorary doctorate from the University of Guelph," he says. "She's someone people in Iceland respect and admire very much, so I was pleased to know that Guelph had honoured her this way."

Although the Gulf Stream does moderate Iceland's climate, the island itself is actually only just south of the Arctic Circle. As a result, in some places in the northern part of the island, there is no sunlight at all for about three months in the winter, says Oskarsson. "On the other hand, we get sunlight 24 hours a day from May to the end of July. It is absolutely fantastic to be out camping or fishing that time of year."

Don't people find it difficult to deal with three months of darkness? He shrugs. "We don't worry about it — you get used to it." Although it's dark, the weather doesn't get as cold, or stay as cold, as it does in Canada, he says. Summers are moderate, too. "Twenty degrees would be a good day in the summer."

Besides riding his Harley, Oskarsson loves the outdoors, skiing and fishing — all conveniently close to his home in Iceland. "For us to go skiing, it takes five minutes. It's like going next door to go up in the mountain."

Yes, Iceland has mountains, and some of them are volcanic. Hot springs and geysers are found throughout the country, including the Geysir, from which the English word is derived.

Two of his three children have joined Oskarsson and his wife on this sabbatical journey and are attending Centennial CVI. His older son, Oskar, is also doing some distance education programs with his school back in Iceland — programs developed by his father.

"The computer has changed so much and opened up so many opportunities," says Oskarsson. "It makes it possible for kids to keep up with their education even if they go to Africa with their parents, and it has made it possible for me to come here and still keep up with projects from my schools in Iceland. It's amazing when you think about it."

## CBS Prof Studies Human Impact on Nature in North

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**"W** E UNMISTAKABLY have an effect on the environment. The question is, what type of environment do we want?" Prof. Karl Cottenie, Integrative Biology, is looking north to learn more about humans' effects on nature and how to lessen the impact of climate change and other factors.

This summer he will begin studying ponds and pools around Hudson Bay that he believes will serve as natural early warning systems for the effects of climate change. Working in ponds often no bigger than the desk-

top in his science complex office, Cottenie will look at physical factors — salinity, pH — and creatures living in the pools.

He hopes his studies will help scientists figure out whether ranges of plants and animals are changing. Many researchers believe a warmer climate will allow organisms to push northward into new areas. Northern regions are particularly vulnerable to climate change, he says, adding that many experts point to human activities such as burning of fossil fuels as a major factor.

Cottenie will study changes in communities of zooplankton — mi-

croscopic animals such as rotifers and copepods, which resemble tiny shrimps. "It's like entering a different world," he says.

Most of his hands-on work will involve analyzing data and looking for patterns on the computer. A graduate student will help set up experiments and collect samples this summer near Churchill, Man.

The researchers may, for example, alter salinity in various pools and test the effects on plants and animals. They'll also study pH or acidity, which is linked to atmospheric carbon dioxide levels. Scientists think rising levels of atmospheric CO<sub>2</sub> are

altering the acidity of lakes and oceans.

Cottenie says working in small pools will help make the project manageable. At the same time, he expects to use systems and resources back here at Guelph. Researchers at the Biodiversity Institute of Ontario (BIO) will help him use U of G's bar-coding technology to identify many cryptic specimens of organisms. He first visited Churchill last summer with departmental colleague Prof. Paul Hebert, who runs the BIO and has spent years working on organisms in northern Canada.

Cottenie also expects to use the

limnotron, a new research facility opening this year in the BIO. There, huge tanks will allow researchers to create artificial ecosystems to test environmental factors. He anticipates running tests there to complement his field studies.

"That's where the limnotron becomes useful," he says. Even with the best-designed field study, "you can't control everything. With studies of dispersal, it's hard to stop natural movement. You have cryptic dispersal stages in some organisms. Things get moved by wind and animals. It's difficult to completely eliminate that."



# What the Animals Have to Say

English prof says we need to read between the lines of animal-centric works from *Charlotte's Web* to *Stuart Little*

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**A**NIMAL WEANING, mating and motherhood, transportation of food animals — and British literary texts? No, there hadn't been a conference mix-up. Among the biologists and animal and veterinary scientists on the bill at last month's first-ever research symposium hosted by U of G's Campbell Centre for the Study of Animal Welfare, there was room for insights from Prof. Anne Milne, English and Theatre Studies.

Milne has spent about a decade studying how writers — particularly 18th-century writers — depict and give voice to animals. When she learned the conference organizers were looking for speakers, she believed she had something to say. But it was hardly a one-way street.

"I also thought it was a good opportunity to learn what some agricultural people are thinking about," she says.

At the conference, Milne discussed two literary works during her talk on "The Power of Testimony: the Speaking Animal's Plea for Understanding in a Selection of 18th-Century British Literary Texts."

*The Mouse's Petition*, a poem by Anna Letitia Barbauld, is a lament by a trapped mouse to Joseph Priestley, who conducted experiments on air and oxygen. Reading excerpts from a children's book by Dorothy Kilner called *The Life and Perambulations of a Mouse*, Milne also discussed views of children's and adults' behaviour and values.

Those works may seem removed from the hands-on topics in animal husbandry discussed by other speakers and conference attendees. But she believes people's views and treatment of animals — livestock, lab animals, pets — develop out of ideas ingrained early through cultural practices and products.



What we write about animals says a lot about how we treat them, says Prof. Anne Milne.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

Do you think of *The Wind in the Willows*, *The House at Pooh Corner*, *Stuart Little* and *Charlotte's Web* as benign storybooks for kids? Think again, says Milne, who read all those children's classics while growing up in Guelph. Nothing is just a story. "Stories have a powerful effect on who we are."

She believes people can reveal attitudes by looking more closely at how stories, art and even products like those stuffed animals on a shelf in her office represent animals.

"The question I'm interested in is, how much do we need to listen to these kinds of representations? When humans speak for animals or use animal voices, what inaccuracies or problems come out?"

Milne says these are ethical questions that need to be considered in

treating animals, as difficult as it may be for people to think about animals as "stakeholders" in their own welfare. (Other conference speakers from the College of Arts were philosophy professors Jean Harvey, who discussed animal use, and Karen Houle.)

"It's a hugely complex question," says Milne — not just for animals but for humans as well.

She suggests that it also shades into our views of environmental issues. Do we see ourselves as a part of nature or apart from it?

"If humans separate themselves from their reality as animals, then do they also separate themselves from nature?"

Viewing literary works through an environmental lens is ecocriticism, another keen interest for

Milne. She thinks there are ethical lessons in varied books, from anything by Thoreau to works by Utah naturalist-author Terry Tempest Williams to the "dystopian" *Oryx and Crake* by Margaret Atwood.

For Milne, thinking about the environment involves being conscious of your own place in it. Simplistically, writers and critics call that "setting," alongside character, plot, dialogue and other elements. But it's deeper than that, she says. You develop environmental awareness through your own experience. She admires authors who can summon that sense of place in their works.

Hoping to underline that connection for Guelph students, she is developing a course for the fall that will take undergraduates on walking tours, perhaps historical walks on

campus or a nature jaunt through the Arboretum. She credits Thoreau's essay *Walking* as part of the genesis for that idea.

She's also taught the introductory literature course called "Reading the Past" and fourth-year seminars on ecofeminism and on the animal in 18th- and 19th-century literature.

Milne arrived at U of G in early 2007 from a faculty position at McMaster University's Centre for Leadership and Learning. After growing up in Guelph, she completed three English degrees at McMaster.

She still lives in downtown Hamilton, where she's an artist and enthusiastic gallery-goer. Milne marries text and photographs for installations that often comment on the nature of art itself. Her 2004 project about the development of a downtown mall raised questions about how citizens engage in urban design and politics. That's a topic that she acknowledges resonates with her current interest in lending a voice to the voiceless.

This year, Bucknell University Press will publish a book based on Milne's PhD thesis, which looked at labour and class issues in the 1700s. Borrowing from a line by poet Ann Yearsley, the book is called *Lactilla Tends Her Fav'rite Cow: Ecocritical Readings of Animals and Women in 18th-Century British Labouring-Class Women's Poetry*.

Milne smiles. "That's in keeping with 18th-century literature — they liked long titles."

Prof. Georgia Mason, Animal and Poultry Science, says the humanities faculty brought a different perspective to the symposium.

"They are much more comfortable about asking unsettling questions like: Are we consistent in how we treat different species? If not, why not? And how much of what we do to animals is simply morally wrong?"

## Project Assesses Use of Reed Plants in Treating Waste

Alfred Campus researchers study reed bed filters for use in sewage treatment

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**C**ALL IT A SEWAGE TREATMENT plant — with the emphasis on "plant." At U of G's Alfred Campus, researchers are using reeds planted in a modified sandbox in hopes of yielding a cheaper and more efficient way to treat sewage for municipalities and other treatment operators.

Pending provincial regulation will ban the application of untreated septage (sludge from septic tanks) to agricultural land. Prof. Chris Kinsley says a reed bed filter offers promise for treating that waste.

He and other Alfred researchers are studying this technology with René Goulet Septic Tank Pumping, a private operator. The project is based at the company's waste-treatment site in Alexandria, about 45 minutes from the campus.

Two years ago, the researchers installed a lined pit about two metres deep filled with layers of gravel and sand and planted with reeds. Septic waste collected from area homes is pumped in and percolates through the pit. The idea is to separate liquid from solids.

Liquid percolating through the filter is pumped into the company's treatment lagoon and used to irrigate a poplar plantation that will eventually be harvested. Biosolids trapped in the filter could be applied to land as composted fertilizer.

Kinsley says the reed plants are vital to proper filtering. Sand alone serves as a natural filter, but it clogs up easily. Plant roots break apart the clogging layer of solids and create capillaries that allow water to drain. The plants also suck up water that ultimately evaporates from their

leaves, helping to dry the biosolids in the waste material.

The reeds also pump oxygen into the root zone. That allows bacteria to grow and break down waste aerobically, preventing odours from anaerobic decomposition.

The researchers use common reeds that grow wild in wet areas in Ontario. Kinsley says plant scientists might be interested in testing various species to see which ones work better. He says it's important to let the reed plants establish themselves before beginning to dump in waste. The Alfred team had to replant during its first season.

Besides separating liquids and solids, the system "is actually treating the waste water," says Kinsley. Water percolating to the bottom of the filters is already much cleaner when it arrives at the lagoon.

He says the system is intended as a pilot site to test the concept. If it works — if the system filters waste without clogging up and if it functions through Ontario winters — a municipality might adapt it for larger-scale treatment. He says land costs might be critical because the reed beds need sufficient space.

Kinsley is now designing a system to be installed in Algonquin Park next year. He expects to use that installation to generate research data for U of G.

Reed bed technology was developed in Denmark, where it's used to treat the excess bacteria and detritus that accumulate in municipal wastewater treatment facilities. The idea has spread to other countries, including France and Germany.

Kinsley says the systems cost less to build and maintain than conven-

tional treatment plants. But researchers need to learn more about the kinds of questions he's investigating, including how much material the system can take at a time.

The reed bed is a form of built wetland, which has been a focus of research by Kinsley and Alfred colleague Anna Crolla for about 10 years. They have built and evaluated systems to treat municipal lagoon effluent, runoff from dairy operations, landfill leachate and mining waste streams.

Under a current project funded by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, a pilot wetland system has been built in Morocco to study treatment and reuse applications in an arid climate.

Both Kinsley and Crolla belong to the U of G-based Ontario Rural Wastewater Centre.



## KRISTA BIANCO

Co-ordinator of the supported learning groups program in the Learning Commons, joined U of G in 2007

"I've always loved plants," says Krista Bianco, "and my big project right now is gardening."

She appreciates the recent arrival of warm spring weather, but she didn't let the long cold winter slow down her gardening plans.

"I plant my seeds indoors and then transplant them into little pots so I can move them into the garden once it's warm enough. I focus on vegetables and herbs, and I'm really looking forward to eating what I've grown."

For Bianco, gardening is "extremely relaxing," and that's a good thing because the rest of her life has been on the hectic side since the arrival of Ella, now 21 months old. "My free time is all about being with my daughter."

Just as she loves watching plants grow, Bianco is enjoying seeing Ella grow into a lively and active toddler. Like her mother, Ella enjoys being outdoors, and they frequently go for walks to the park or hang out in the backyard. "Ella also loves animals. Whenever we're out for a walk and see a dog or a bird, she wants to run right up to it. I'm planning to take her to the zoo soon — I think she'll love it."

And does Ella share her mother's love of gardening? Time will tell, says Bianco, but "if her fascination with worms, dirt and rocks is any indication, she's certainly picked it up."

## ANDY KLAHN

Sessional instructor in the School of Fine Art and Music since 1997

There's considerable overlap between Andy Klahn's life in and outside of the classroom, but that's the way he likes it.

"Basically my work is two-pronged," he says. "One is teaching music and the other is performing music."

Encouraged by his father, who played trumpet, Klahn took up the clarinet at around age 10 and now plays all the woodwind instruments. He performs with other musicians in various combinations, including duos, trios and quartets.

"I'm involved in up to a dozen performances each month," he says. "We play at weddings, parties and any event where people want live background music. I also have kind of a home base at a great little restaurant called Café Bolero in Kitchener, where I perform with others about three times a month."

Although generally labelled a jazz musician, Klahn says he tries to mix in some pop and contemporary music when he performs.

"We'll play songs by Elton John and Billy Joel, even the themes from *The Flintstones* and *Spiderman*," he

says. "I like to have at least one song that everyone in the audience knows, no matter what their age."

At a recent concert, one of the organizers of the Waterloo Jazz Festival was in the audience and promptly signed Klahn's group to perform at the festival July 12.

Although organizing and looking for performance opportunities can be a lot of work, Klahn says it's worth it.

"I like my life. When you have a passion for something, it's hard to explain it to other people. This is my passion."

To hear some sound clips of his music, visit [www.andyklaehn.com](http://www.andyklaehn.com).



Krista Bianco

## JOCELYN WESSELS

M.Sc. candidate in the Department of Biomedical Sciences

Now that she's finished defending her thesis, Jocelyn Wessels is spending her free time reviewing the geography of southwestern Ontario.

"I'm from Ottawa, and I haven't even had a car during my six years in Guelph, so I don't even know which direction to go to get to Cambridge," she says.

Why the sudden interest in navigating the community? Well, her geographical knowledge — and many other skills — are going to be put to the test June 7 and 8 as she and Emma Wixey, a 2006 B.A.Sc. graduate of Guelph, compete in the Southern Ontario Amazing Race. Based on the TV show of the same name, this event will have competing teams of two embark on a two-day trek around southern Ontario, completing surprise puzzles and challenges along the way.

The event is a fundraiser for the Children's Foundation of Guelph-Wellington.

"The foundation isn't well-known, but it's a very worthwhile charity," says Wessels. "It provides grants and bursaries to underprivileged children in the area. For example, kids and their families can apply to participate in soccer or hockey or other sports that they couldn't otherwise afford."

That's a cause that's close to her heart. "I used to work at a summer camp, and I know how valuable these experiences are for kids."

This is the fifth year of the fundraising race, and 20 teams will be participating. Each team has to raise money in advance of the contest.

"We've been going door to door and asking for donations," says Wessels, "and we're thinking of doing a bake sale and other things to bring in more."

Despite her current lack of geographical knowledge, she's optimistic that she and Wixey will do well. Her only worry: "This year, one of the sponsors is a helicopter company, so I'm thinking a helicopter ride might be involved. It would be exciting, but I'm kind of afraid of heights."

For more information about the race and the foundation's work or to make a donation to Wessels' team, visit [www.therace.ca](http://www.therace.ca) or [www.geocities.com/emmaandjocelynsoar](http://www.geocities.com/emmaandjocelynsoar).



Jocelyn Wessels

# New Building Key Part of OVC's Strategic Vision

Continued from page 1

the building comes from the federal and provincial governments, as well as U of G and private-sector partners.

"Veterinary medicine has a critical function in human health and well-being," says OVC dean Elizabeth Stone. "There is a growing need in Canada and globally for expertise in public health, infectious diseases, pathology and immunology. This new facility will accelerate our ability to advance animal and human health care and provide global leadership through education and research."

The Pathobiology/Animal Health Lab building fulfils a key component of OVC's strategic vision, says Stone. As the college approaches its 150th anniversary in 2012, it is focusing on several key initiatives, including a new educational centre in primary health care; an animal cancer centre; an equine performance and reproduction centre; and other improvements that will facilitate continued delivery of leading-edge medical, surgical and diagnostic imaging services.

As a partner with the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs in the Ontario Animal Health Surveillance Network, the

AHL contributes to maintaining healthy animals and safe food in Ontario by providing specialized diagnostic services for veterinarians and public- and private-sector agencies.

Last year, for example, U of G scientists made a chemical discovery that explained how pets in the United States and Canada were affected by chemical contaminants discovered in recalled pet food products. The AHL was involved in conducting tests on the crystal-like substances found in the kidneys and urine of affected animals.

"These new facilities will greatly improve our biosecurity and biocontainment, protecting both our staff and our clients' herds and flocks from the pathogens that we deal with," says AHL director Grant Maxie.

The new building will also complement the OVC Health Sciences Centre — a bold new vision for the college that will transform the OVC Teaching Hospital and shape the future of the profession, says Stone. Part of that initiative includes a large-animal isolation unit that is under construction at the southwest corner of the OVC complex and that will set a new standard in patient housing and infection control.

## CARELESS DOG OWNERS SPOIL ENJOYMENT

We are privileged to have the publicly accessible Arboretum at the University of Guelph. There, you can enjoy the tranquility of nature with trees, flowers, the stream, the pond and the English, Japanese, Italian and rose gardens with all their wildlife.

Thanks to the abundance of trees, shrubs and plants with nameplates, it's easy to get familiar with many different species. You

can also get ideas for landscaping your own yard.

What's not so pleasant, however, are the piles of dog waste you have to try and get around as you walk or jog through the Arboretum. Why do some people who bring their dogs to the Arboretum not clean up after their pets? They spoil the enjoyment for everyone else.

Agnes Belosic, Plant Agriculture

letters

Guelph Chamber Choir

Guelph Chamber Choir

GERALD NEUFELD conductor

with

Guelph Concert Band

HENRY JANZEN conductor

and

guest community choirs

Afternoon at

The Proms

JUNE 1, 2008 2 PM River Run Centre, Guelph

Celebrate Canada's British heritage with a traditional "Night on the Proms" concert. Hear such favourites as Land of Hope and Glory, The Maple Leaf Forever, and much more!

TICKETS: \$20 adult • \$10 student • \$5 (18 & under)  
Order by phone 519-763-3000 or toll-free 1-877-520-2408 or on-line at [www.riveruncentre.ca](http://www.riveruncentre.ca)

River Run Centre

rainbow day camp

summer fun for everyone!

JULY AND AUGUST 2008

Memorable, best-loved day camp activities for children and youth ages 4-14+

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH CAMPUS

CALL 519-837-0387 or visit us at

[www.rainbowdaycamp.com](http://www.rainbowdaycamp.com)

Swimming everyday!!

For information about paid advertising in At Guelph, call Scott Anderson at 519-827-9169.



# OMAFRA Agreement Provides Big Boost to Ontario Economy

Continued from page 1

contributions to protecting humans, animals and the food chain, to training tomorrow's innovators and to advancing innovation."

U of G and OMAFRA first entered into an enhanced partnership agreement in 1997. Under the agreement, the University manages research and education programs and related facilities, including the three regional campuses at Alfred, Ridgetown and Kemptville, supported through an annual allocation from the Ontario government.

The partnership has garnered tremendous social, economic, environmental and health benefits for the industry and the province, re-

turning more than \$1.5 billion to the Ontario economy annually, according to an independent economic analysis. Specifically, the partnership returns \$3 for every \$1 received in direct, indirect and associated impacts, in addition to spinoffs and other financial effects that return another \$18 to \$19 per dollar invested by the province.

The report by Deloitte and Touche LLP also said Ontario benefits from the agreement in critical ways that cannot be fiscally quantified, such as supporting research involving the monitoring and prevention of health threats like SARS, avian flu and mad cow disease.

## MS Carnation Campaign

### Flowers for a Cure

From May 8 to 10, thousands of MS Society volunteers in more than 280 communities across Canada will be showing their dedication to finding a cure for multiple sclerosis by selling carnations on street corners, in malls and in other public spaces.

Show your dedication to finding a cure. Buy a carnation, help end MS.

For more information, visit [www.mssociety.ca](http://www.mssociety.ca).



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by May 9 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to [r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca) or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the April 23 photo was of a painting of a matador hanging in the Bultrig: Scott McWhinnie, Judy O'Donnell, Maurice Nelisher, Rose Kucman, John Murison, Anthony Clarke, Bill Clair, Danny Martin and John Van Manen.

PHOTO BY REBECCA KENDALL

## Cost-Saving Efforts Planned

Continued from page 1

"We kept the budget adjustments for 2008/2009 lower than they will be in the coming years to allow colleges and units time for planning to accommodate the change."

The University will also be looking at opportunities to increase revenues. This may include developing short-term intensive courses to be offered during the summer on all campuses, including Guelph-Humber; growing certain under-

graduate and graduate programs; and creating new programs. But these initiatives are contingent on government funding for student growth.

Cost savings being considered University-wide include identifying energy and information technology efficiencies, streamlining administrative structures, making better use of space, and enhancing course delivery.

Guelph also plans to introduce a voluntary early retirement/resignation package for staff to complement the early retirement program for faculty that was included as part of the new collective agreement.

"The early retirement package will allow units to make strategic reductions while giving many staff who want to retire or leave early an opportunity to do so," says Nancy Sullivan, vice-president (finance and

administration). Details of the plan will be announced shortly, she says. Watch for these and other budget-related updates in upcoming issues of *At Guelph*.

The University community is also encouraged to explore the budgetary savings potential of existing alternative work arrangements, such as a four-day week and eight-, nine- and 10-month contracts.

Colleges and departments have also been advised not to post any new jobs or hire any new employees until their units have put plans in place to meet their budget-reduction targets.

Summerlee acknowledges that it can be difficult to put the budget deficit in context.

"With so many good-news stories about new investments in U of G lately, it can be hard to understand why we are in the position of having to make cuts to our operating budget."

The new investments recognize the University's strengths in research and the urgent need for the renewal of campus facilities, but the money is restricted to specific projects or partnerships and does not offer any operating budget relief, he says.

The president expresses appreciation to the University community and asks for patience and understanding.

"We are absolutely committed to maintaining a quality educational experience for students and Guelph's competitive edge," he says.

"I am confident that, working together as a community, we can achieve the necessary budgetary savings while moving forward with a long-term strategic plan for the University's future."

## YOUR PREFERRED

### Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM



Call today for a no-obligation quote

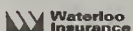
Toll Free 1-800-482-0822

Local 519-836-5700

Or visit our website at [www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)

Save Up To 50% In Insurance Product Discounts

plus Your Group Discount!



Visit us at [www.economicallianzinsurance.com](http://www.economicallianzinsurance.com)

### OPTOMETRISTS GOEMANS & ASSOCIATES

Dr. Donna Goemans  
Dr. Paul Goemans  
Dr. Doris Hrvatin  
Dr. Tiffany Tang  
Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

#### NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,  
Laser Surgery Consultation  
570 Kortright Rd. W, Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**

Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR RENT

Four-bedroom stone house on quiet street in downtown Guelph, 1½ baths, semi-finished basement, large yard, laundry, parking for two vehicles, available July 1 for one year, \$1,300 a month plus utilities, 412-586-5523 or jlampert@uoguelph.ca.

Furnished three-bedroom house, 1½ baths, laundry, fireplace, grand piano, large private yard, pool, garage, close to schools and shopping, 10-minute bus ride to campus, available Aug. 15 for one year, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, 519-826-0554 or ewaterma@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom apartment in century home on treed lot, close to downtown and river, hardwood floors, parking, laundry, available July 1, \$1,200 a month inclusive, Donna, 519-241-8846 or dwhite@tcan.com.

Partially furnished room in lower level of condo, fireplace, private bath, kitchenette/laundry room, cable and Internet, suitable for mature female, non-smoker, no pets, available now or reduced rent to hold until September, \$575 a month inclusive, 519-837-4378 or clayne.starr@gmail.com.

Three-bedroom cottage on Lake McQuaby south of North Bay, boat-house, good fishing, clean water, available May 19, Pat, Ext. 52742 or prichard@uoguelph.ca.

Three-bedroom house in south end, three baths, deck overlooking conservation area, on bus route, ideal for visiting faculty, available Aug. 1

to mid-December, Melody, Ext. 54337, 519-836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or fnmoll@rogers.com.

## FOR SALE

Mirror dinghy sailboat with towing/launching trailer and design/instruction booklets, sailed last season but needs minor annual maintenance, kslater@uoguelph.ca.

Adjustable bookshelves, brown, composite wood material; Ikea dining table with four chairs, light-coloured solid wood, excellent condition, Ben, Ext. 58394.

Computer desks, TV, single bed, JVC stereo set, white chest of drawers, chairs, carpets and much more, 519-780-2676.

1927 Hamburg Steinway grand piano Model A, satin ebony finish, 519-836-8492.

Craftsman Rototiller, 5 HP, 519-822-5590.

Renovated two-storey older home on 51- by 100-foot lot in old University area, four bedrooms, two baths, wood fireplace, cathedral ceiling in family room, walkout patio, partially finished basement with finished rec room, single-car garage, long driveway, 519-821-7359.

Two-bedroom townhouse in Charlotte's Landing on Grange Street, 2,000 square feet, two baths, hard-

wood floors, walkout on lower level, no condo fees, appliances included, 519-837-1742.

## WANTED

Full-time nanny for daytime care of toddler in our home beginning in July, experience with toddlers and ECE academic background desired, references required, carusoc@uoguelph.ca or maherali@uoguelph.ca.

Responsible, mature non-smoking female will do apartment- or house-sitting in exchange for reasonable rent, references available, Kat, 519-731-1989.

## AVAILABLE

Guitar lessons for children or adults, beginners welcome, Chris, 519-822-6132.

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 821-7800  
Fax (519) 821-7810



519 824-4120  
Ext. 58031

Portable and Affordable



### Banner Stands

Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand



Large Format Printing By: **Roland**

Banner-Up Retractable [www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)



**CONSUMER TRAVEL CENTRE**

Your local travel agency.

We guarantee you the best personalized services And most economical prices.

We're just a phone call away.

Please contact Carrie Rankin at 519-824-6001 or 519-212-8623 • E-mail: ctravel@mg1.ca

"WE SERVE YOU BETTER"

**D & D GRANITEWORX**

GRANITE • MARBLE • NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN • MANUFACTURE • INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
graniteworx@bellnet.ca

## Guelph's Laminate and Hardwood Flooring Headquarters

Come in and see our large in-stock selection of laminate and hardwood flooring




**55 Dawson Road, Guelph**  
**519-821-5744**

## WELCOME TO DELTA GUELPH HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE.



### SPECIAL WEEKEND RATE

from **\$119.00\*** per night  
Offer for Friday, Saturday, Sunday only

- Starts March 7, until June 29, 2008
- Upgrade to our special weekend package for \$199. Includes a three-course dinner and breakfast for two at Fifty West Restaurant and Bar.\*\*




**DELTA**  
GUELPH  
HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Call 519-780-3700 or visit [www.deltaguelph.com](http://www.deltaguelph.com) and quote code GTrib.

## MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON

established 1996



- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**  
(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
[www.montessori-school.ca](http://www.montessori-school.ca)



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

Naturalist Chris Earley leads a workshop on sparrows May 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$50. Registration and payment are required by May 16. Call Ext. 52358.

Plant propagation is the topic of a workshop to be led by horticulturist Sean Fox June 3 from 1 to 4 p.m. Cost is \$40. The deadline for registration and payment is May 20.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre hosts an opening reception for the retrospective exhibition "Evan Macdonald: An Artist's Life" May 14 at 7 p.m. The event will also mark the launch of the book *Evan Macdonald: A Painter's Life* by Flora Macdonald Spencer. Also opening May 14 is the exhibition "Tom Thomson and the Group of Seven."

The art centre is accepting registrations for its July and August art camps for children aged seven to 11. Registration must be done in person.

## NOTICES

The Stress Management and High Performance Clinic is offering a program in relaxation and stress-management skills beginning May 20 at 8 p.m. in UC 335. The class meets

twice a week for six weeks. The clinic is also offering a five-session better sleep program beginning May 21 at 7:30 p.m. in UC 335. For more information or to register, pick up a pamphlet at the Info Desk on UC Level 1, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers](http://www.uoguelph.ca/~ksomers) or leave a message at Ext. 52662.

Alumni-in-Action's annual spring luncheon is May 21 at noon at the Arboretum Centre. A reception begins at 11:30 a.m. This year's guest speaker is University professor emerita Mary Rubio, English and Theatre Studies, who will discuss the University's L.M. Montgomery Collection. Cost is \$20. RSVP by May 16 to Ext. 56934, send e-mail to [eventsrsp@uoguelph.ca](mailto:eventsrsp@uoguelph.ca) or visit the website [www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/cgi-bin/aiaregistration.pl](http://www.alumni.uoguelph.ca/cgi-bin/aiaregistration.pl).

The Professional Staff Association's annual general meeting is June 12 at 10:30 a.m. in Thornbrough 1200.

The Ontario Historical Society (OHS) holds its annual conference at U of G June 13 and 14. Organizers include two Guelph history graduates: Debra Nash-Chambers, BA '77, MA '81 and PhD '88, who is president of the Guelph Historical Society, and OHS director Cynthia Comacchio, PhD '87, a faculty member at Wilfrid Laurier University. For information, visit [www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca](http://www.ontariohistoricalsociety.ca).

travelled from their home in Timmins to visit OVC's small-animal clinic and show their appreciation.

Styx began losing her sight last year from glaucoma — first in one eye and then in the other. When the pain of her condition could no longer be treated with eye drops, her veterinarian referred her to OVC ophthalmologist Prof. Chantale Pinard, Clinical Studies.

After examining Styx, Pinard knew she couldn't restore the dog's sight. But she could help relieve the pain caused by the pressure building inside the animal's eyes and improve her quality of life.

Pinard presented McDonald with some options. She could have her dog's eyes removed and the eyelids sutured shut or have the eyes replaced with prosthetics.

"When they told me I had the op-

## SEMINARS

The Department of Population Medicine presents Enrique Pérez Gutiérrez of PAHO/WHO discussing "Improving Food Safety and Food Security in Support of Public Health: The PAHO Strategy for Technical Co-operation 2007-2013" May 7 at 3:30 p.m. in OVC 1715.

The microbiology graduate student seminars continue May 9 with Chris Snowdon discussing "Characterization of the Role of the Vid30c in Hexose Transporter Turnover." On May 15, Michelle Pinto presents "Characterization of Select Two-Component Systems in *Mycobacterium avium* Subspecies *paratuberculosis*." The seminars begin at 12:30 p.m. in science complex 2315.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

To register for Teaching Support Services programs, visit [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca).

TSS kicks off its spring discussion series May 12 with "Making the Most of Collaborative Learning."

The TA professional development series focuses on "Facilitating Effective Discussions" May 20.

TSS is hosting a patty for its staff and friends (anyone who has worked or

consulted with TSS or participated in its programs over the past year) May 21 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Bullring.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of PhD candidate Inderesh of the Department of Molecular and Cellular Biology is May 7 at 9 a.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "Investigating Pathogenic Mechanisms of *Yersinia ruckeri* in Rainbow Trout." The adviser is Prof. Roselynn Stevenson.

The final examination of Sandra Chadwick, a PhD candidate in the rural studies program, is May 12 at 1:30 p.m. in Landscape Architecture 143. The thesis is "Partnerships: Examining Process and Practice." The adviser is Prof. David Douglas.

The final examination of PhD candidate Ravendra Kulkarni, Pathobiology, is May 13 at 1 p.m. in Pathobiology 2106. The thesis is "Immunity and Immunization Against *Clostridium perfringens*-Induced Necrotic Enteritis in Broiler Chickens." The advisers are Profs. John Prescott and Shayan Sharif.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Eugene Wong, Integrative Biology, is May 14 at 2 p.m. in science complex 2315. The thesis is "DNA Bar Codes as a Resource for

Applied Species Identification: Integration of a Character-Based Diagnostic System." The adviser is Prof. Robert Hanner.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Wellington branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society meets May 27 at 7:30 p.m. at 122 Harris St. Patty Whan of the Wellington County Museum and Archives will discuss "Preservation and Conservation of Family Treasures."

The Guelph Lions Club and Royal City Lions Club are hosting Guelph's second annual Purina Walk for Dog Guides June 1 at 10 a.m. at the Arboretum. Registration begins at 9 a.m. For more information, visit [www.purinawalkfordogguides.com](http://www.purinawalkfordogguides.com).

The 2008 Guelph and Wellington Spring Sprint in support of the Brain Tumour Foundation of Canada is May 24 at 9 a.m. at the Arboretum. Register online at [www.spring.sprint.ca](http://www.spring.sprint.ca) or call 1-800-265-5106.

The Kitchener-Waterloo Sexual Assault Support Centre and the Latitudes Storytelling Festival present *Meri Kahana: My Story*, a new play that addresses the challenges faced by South Asian survivors of abuse in the North American context, May 9 at 7:30 p.m. at 543 Beechwood Dr. in Waterloo. Donations are welcome.

# Life Is Looking Better for Styx

OVC ophthalmologist implants silicon eyes that allow blind dog to live a normal life

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**S**TYX LOOKS LIKE any other dog. She's a basset hound/Labrador mix that loves to play with other dogs, walks obediently beside her owner and welcomes strangers wanting to pet her. She even has those characteristic basset-hound eyes that melt your heart.

It's only after taking a closer look that you might notice how she leans against her owner's leg for direction, has to be warned when approaching any steps and occasionally bumps into things.

That's because Styx is blind and her big lovable eyes are prosthetics.

The three-year-old dog is one of the success stories to come out of the Ontario Veterinary College. And it's a story that recently garnered national media attention when Styx and her owner, Liseanne McDonald,

and the outer layer of eye tissue is then sutured over the implant. This procedure leaves the pet with an eye that has no vision but still blinks and moves.

This type of surgery has been around for many years but is becoming more common, especially with animals like Styx that suffer from glaucoma, says Pinard.

The surgery was done in January, and since taking the dog home, McDonald and her husband have outfitted their house to accommodate their pet. They've put strips of carpet in certain spots on the hardwood floors to help Styx navigate her way to the various rooms in the house.

They've also placed pieces of carpet by the dog's food bowl and at the top of the stairs to help Styx orient herself.

In addition, they've put padding

along the coffee table in case the dog bumps into it and are careful not to move any furniture around because Styx has managed to memorize the layout of the house.

When she goes outside, the dog sometimes wears a tube-like halo around her neck that helps her avoid walking into objects. She also has a pair of goggles to protect her eyes from getting poked.

These are little adjustments that allow Styx to live a normal life despite losing her sight, says McDonald.

"She is almost exactly the way she was before she lost her sight. She can still play outside with other dogs. Instead of sight, she uses her senses of smell and hearing."

In fact, McDonald says she sometimes forgets that her dog can't see. "I look at her eyes, and it seems like she is looking back at me."

• Renovating

• Allergies

**Fresh Start**

• Moving

• New Baby

**CARPET & FURNITURE CLEANING**

Nobody Cleans Better Than Steamatic



**AIR DUCT CLEANING**

Breathe cleaner air

Call Us 519-836-7340



Valerie Poulton



## CIHR Gives \$2.2M Boost to U of G Health Research

*"This investment is essential to the health and well-being of Canadians"*

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**T**HE CANADIAN INSTITUTES OF Health Research (CIHR) is investing more than \$2.2 million in U of G projects aimed at preventing and treating health conditions such as cancer, viral infections, aging and obesity. The grants are part of a \$298-million investment in 764 health projects at universities and health research institutions across Canada.

"This is wonderful news," says Steven Liss, interim vice-president (research). "This investment is essential to the health and well-being of Canadians. The advances that our researchers are making are at the forefront of discovery and innovation. We are extremely pleased with the support and recognition that

come with CIHR funding and the leadership role that our researchers play in life science research."

Three of the projects are headed by four faculty in the Department of Biomedical Sciences: Profs. Dean Betts, Jim Petrik, Roger Moorehead and Gordon Kirby.

Betts received \$446,544 for a four-year study on p66Shc, the gene that determines when cells stop dividing. Understanding how it works could reveal ways to slow down and even reverse the aging process and lead to therapies for treating cancer and infertility.

"We're quite excited to receive this CIHR grant," says Betts. "It acknowledges the importance of using the unique cellular models we've developed here at Guelph and will enable us to tease out a novel pathway

involved in cell aging."

Petrik and Moorehead will use their \$277,608 grant for a three-year study on ovarian cancer.

"We will now be able to aggressively pursue a greater understanding of ovarian cancer and will be able to identify markers of early-stage disease," says Petrik. "We can also begin work on developing novel therapeutic approaches to cause tumour regression in women with ovarian cancer. We sincerely hope the work made possible by this grant will improve our detection and treatment of this disease."

Kirby is also conducting cancer-related research, receiving a three-year \$266,274 grant to look at enzymes that protect against carcinogens and control cellular responses

*Continued on page 6*



### What Are the Stats on That?

Statistics professor Zeny Feng focuses on the analysis of genetic data in her research, aiming to improve the odds of tracking down disease-causing genes. See story on page 5. PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

## China Joins DNA Bar-Coding Project

*Reference library expected to involve 25 countries*

**T**HE REVOLUTIONARY "bar code of life" international library has a new branch. China is striving to raise more than \$25 million for the U of G-based project that will allow the rapid identification of any animal, plant, fungus or protist.

"China is home to some of the most biodiverse areas on the planet," says Prof. Paul Hebert, scientific director of the International Barcode of Life (iBOL) Project, which is headquartered at U of G's Biodiversity Institute of Ontario.

"The Chinese Academy of Sciences also has a long history of world-class contributions to the science of taxonomy and biodiversity," he says. "Their participation in iBOL will contribute significantly to its success."

China will be a central node in the iBOL Project, which will involve more than 100 researchers from 25 countries once fully activated. The consortium will create the world's first reference library of DNA bar codes for use in species identifica-

tion around the globe. It will also develop new informatics tools and technologies.

"This is a very exciting development on a project that has already garnered significant financial support from around the world," says president Alastair Summerlee.

"This alliance will have a profound impact in Canada and around the globe. Bar-coding life may be one of the key ways we can identify the loss of diversity of life on the planet, measure the impacts of climate change, and monitor the spread of infectious diseases and the vectors that transmit them."

China is the latest country to commit to the international project; Argentina, Australia, Costa Rica and the United States have already made commitments.

In February, the Ontario government announced a \$5.2-million investment in the project. iBOL expects to eventually raise \$50 million in Canada and \$100 million internationally.

## Prof, Student, Grad Named 2008 Women of Distinction

*Director of Health and Performance Centre serves as event's honorary chair*

**T**HREE MEMBERS of the University community were among the recipients of the YMCA-YWCA of Guelph's 2008 Women of Distinction Awards last week. Cyndy McLean, director of the Health and Performance Centre, was honorary chair of the 13th annual event.

The U of G recipients are Prof. Belinda Leach, Sociology and Anthropology, who holds the University Research Chair in Rural Gender Studies; Kate Smolina, a graduating biomedical sciences student and Rhodes Scholar; and Mary McEwen, who earned a bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and business from Guelph in 1967 and a master's degree in 1981.

They were among 34 women who were nominated for their achievements in the following categories: arts and culture; business, labour, the professions and entrepreneurs; education and training; public service; science, technology and research; voluntary community service; wellness and health; and young woman of distinction.

Leach received the science, technology and research award for her efforts through her research and volunteer work to improve women's

lives and empower and inspire them to achieve their goals.

"I want to thank the YMCA-YWCA for putting together this very important event because it recognizes the work of women in our community," she says. "I think it's wonderful to give that work the significant recognition it deserves."

Leach is program director and lead researcher for Rural Women Making Change, a community/university research alliance. She has also volunteered her time and skills at Oxfam Canada, where she was a member of the Women and Work Policy Working Group and the gender development policy team.

Smolina was named young woman of distinction for her academic excellence and volunteer work. She arrived at U of G as a President's Scholar in 2004 and won the Lionel Bradley Pett Scholarship for the highest average in biomedical sciences during her third year.

Besides her academic achievements, Smolina is dedicated to volunteering and has been involved in a number of organizations related to health care, peace building and international development. She also travelled to India and Costa Rica,

where she helped communities with construction work, taught English and volunteered in rural hospitals.

McEwen received a lifetime achievement award for dedicating more than 30 years of service and being a tireless advocate and mentor for women. She has been involved with fundraising efforts at U of G since graduation, is a member of the board of directors of the Homewood Health Centre and sits on the executive of the Volunteer Centre of Guelph-Wellington.

Ten other members of the U of G community were nominated for Women of Distinction Awards and were recognized at last week's ceremony.

They are: Profs. Judith Thompson and Ann Wilson, English and Theatre Studies; Prof. Dale Smith, Pathobiology; Prof. Kathleen Brophy, Family Relations and Applied Nutrition; Prof. Deb Stacey, chair of the Department of Computing and Information Science; Angela Orton, manager of intercollegiate programs in the Department of Athletics; Lynda Davenport, director of Student Health Services; and students Kira Kumagai, Shannon Westgarth and Momina Mir.



**ClickSIGNS** 519-824-4120 Ext. 58031  
Visit us at the University Centre

**Banner Stands**  
Order new or we can print new graphics for your existing banner stand

Portable and Affordable

Large Format Printing Co.  
Roland

Banner-Up Retractable

[www.clicksigns.ca](http://www.clicksigns.ca)

**Home Hardware**

**Campus Hardware Limited**  
1027 Gordon Street  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X1  
Tel. (519) 836-3721  
Fax (519) 836-5664  
Helen Maciag

**Acorn Financial Services**

210 Kortright Road West, Unit #5  
Guelph, Ontario N1G 4X4  
Telephone: (519) 826-4774  
Email: [michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com](mailto:michaelmcmurray@on.aibn.com)

Michael H.C. McMurray  
Partner

- Are you happy with your savings and investments?
- Would you like to talk to someone about your financial future?
- With 24 years of financial experience, I can provide a professional second opinion
- Call me today for a free consultation

**Guelph's Laminate and Hardwood Flooring Headquarters**

Come in and see our large in-stock selection of laminate and hardwood flooring

**RONA**  
**CASHWAY**

**55 Dawson Road, Guelph**  
**519-821-5744**

**AIR MILES**  
Travel and More

**"Within the Child Lies the Fate of the Future"**  
Dr. Maria Montessori

**GUELPH MONTESSORI**

- Enriched Academic Curriculum
- Athletic Program including: Martial Arts, Swimming, Skating, Yoga and Gym
- Musikgarten
- Core French
- Monthly Field Trips
- Certified Montessori Teachers

Low Student Teacher Ratio  
Toddler Program 18-30 Months  
1/2 Day & Full Day Preschool  
Full Day Jr. & Sr. Kindergarten  
Elementary Grades 1-6  
Extended Hours Available  
**DOWNTOWN GUELPH**  
151 Waterloo Ave  
Guelph Ont

**519 836-3810**

[www.guelphmontessori.com](http://www.guelphmontessori.com)

# Ride Day for Equine Guelph

Centre celebrates five-year partnership between U of G, equine industry

**E**QUINE GUELPH wants horse lovers to help celebrate its fifth anniversary by saddling up at the annual ride day June 1 at the Jaybird Ranch in Rockwood. Hosted in partnership with the Ontario Equestrian Federation (OEF), the event is a chance to spend an afternoon learning about horses and horseback riding.

In addition to trail rides and lead line rides, Equine Guelph will be running EquiMania!, an interactive youth education program designed to promote horse health and safety to all ages.

"The fifth anniversary is an important milestone for Equine Guelph, and it's a celebration of the partnership between the University of Guelph and the equine industry," says Gayle Ecker, senior manager of Equine Guelph. "It's this unique partnership that sets us apart and helps us promote educational opportunities and bring together members of the industry to fund important research projects in support of horse health and welfare."

Founded in 2003, Equine Guelph

is the horse owner's centre at U of G, says Ecker. Supported and overseen by equine industry groups, it is dedicated to improving the health and well-being of horses and helps connect members of the equine industry with expertise at the Ontario Veterinary College, she says.

Equine Guelph focuses on five interrelated areas: research, education and training, performance, health care and industry development. Efforts in these areas support the horse throughout its lifespan by providing a comprehensive continuum of care that optimizes health, addresses performance issues, and fully supports diagnosis and treatment of sick and injured horses, says Ecker.

Over the past five years, Equine Guelph's research program has increased understanding of the transmission of methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* and colic, the use of new diagnostic tools, the impact of horse behaviour on racing performance and the incidence of horse injuries at the racetrack.

Equine Guelph's award-winning educational program has been simi-

larly successful, says Susan Raymond, communications and program officer for Equine Guelph.

"Each year the program continues to grow and expand with the goal of helping owners and caregivers make sound science-based decisions in managing their horses," she says.

For the first time this year, EquiMania! participated in the Royal Manitoba Winter Fair. Equine Guelph also announced a new online diploma in equine studies and a certificate in equine business management.

In the health and performance area, Equine Guelph has worked hard over the years to support both horse athletes and companion horses with state-of-the-art facilities and equipment, says Ecker.

"It's been a very successful five years. We hope people will come out and help us celebrate at the annual ride day."

For more information about the event or to register, visit the OEF website at [www.horse.on.ca](http://www.horse.on.ca) or contact Melissa Monardo at [marketing@horse.on.ca](mailto:marketing@horse.on.ca).

# Wheels in Motion Gets in Gear

Fifth annual fundraiser June 8 supports people with spinal cord injury

BY LORI BONA HUNT

**E**NSURING THAT RECREATIONAL and fitness opportunities are available for people with spinal cord injury (SCI) is the focus of the fifth annual Rick Hansen Wheels in Motion event June 8 at U of G.

"People with spinal cord injury often have difficulty being physically active and involved in sports and recreation," says Cyndy McLean, director of the Health and Performance Centre and a member of the local Wheels in Motion organizing committee. "Often this is due to the limited availability of wheelchair-accessible facilities, equipment and programming in our region."

McLean, a former marathon runner and elite-level athlete who was left paraplegic after falling off a cliff in 2003, says being active is vital to overall health and well-being.

"A spinal cord injury can happen in a moment, but the effects last a lifetime. Being regularly active is necessary for good health, but it is also an important factor in maintaining independence and quality of life. We want to ensure that people with SCI in the Guelph area have options available to them."

Most of the money raised at this year's event will stay in Guelph and

be used to buy wheelchair-accessible fitness equipment for the city's Victoria Road Recreation Centre. Proceeds will also support the purchase of a height-adjustable medical examination table for U of G's Student Health Services.

"These are two very worthy projects that will allow us to continue to improve access to recreation and health services for people with SCI and other disabilities," McLean says.

In the past five years, Wheels in Motion has raised more than \$100,000 for people living with SCI. Some of the funding raised last year also supported the fitness-related activities and interests of Guelph residents. This support included the purchase of an arm ergometer, a sports wheelchair, a fitness membership for a member of the national wheelchair basketball team, and a wheelchair adaptation that permits easier use of the local trail system.

The 2008 event begins at noon at the Athletics Centre, with registration at 10:30 a.m. A highlight of the day is the Scotiabank Wheelchair Challenge, which has teams of five competing against one another to complete a variety of day-to-day activities in a wheelchair. People can also collect pledges and then wheel,

walk, bike or run a 2.5-kilometre course on campus.

Numerous activities throughout the day will be geared to families and children, including a free barbecue and an arts and crafts area. President Alastair Summerlee is the honorary chair of the event and will participate again this year in a wheelchair.

Wheels in Motion was started by Olympic wheelchair champion Rick Hansen. McLean, who was instrumental in bringing the event to Guelph, is a national ambassador for the Rick Hansen Man in Motion Foundation.

McLean will miss this year's event because she'll be representing Canada at the wheelchair tennis World Team Cup in Italy. She took up the sport following her accident.

"Five years ago, broken and battered, I would have never dreamed I'd be playing international competitive tennis," she says. "Although this will take me away from Guelph during the Wheels in Motion event, my participation in this tournament is in keeping with our theme this year: the importance of staying active, involved and physically fit."

For more information about the event, visit [www.wheelsinmotion.org](http://www.wheelsinmotion.org) or call McLean at Ext. 53319.

**Editor** Barbara Chance  
[b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:b.chance@exec.uoguelph.ca)

**Design** Peter Enneson

**Production** Linda Graham  
[lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:lgraham@exec.uoguelph.ca)

**Advertising** Scott Anderson  
[theandersondifference@rogers.com](mailto:theandersondifference@rogers.com)

**Director** Chuck Cunningham  
[c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:c.cunningham@exec.uoguelph.ca)

At Guelph is published every two weeks by Communications and Public Affairs, Level 4, University Centre, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario N1G 2W1.  
Inquiries: 519-824-4120  
Editorial: Ext. 56580  
Distribution: Ext. 56581  
Advertising: Ext. 56580  
[www.uoguelph.ca/alguide](http://www.uoguelph.ca/alguide)  
Classifieds: Ext. 56581  
Fax: 519-824-7962  
Website: [www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph](http://www.uoguelph.ca/atguelph)

Articles may be reprinted with credit to At Guelph.

**Subscriptions**  
\$25 (includes GST);  
\$30 outside Canada  
ISSN 08364478



# A GREEN CHALLENGE

U of G students, staff and faculty are encouraged to find greener ways to get to campus as part of this year's Commuter Challenge, a nationwide week-long event that runs during National Environment Week June 1 to 7. The campaign aims to reduce the number of single-occupancy vehicles driven to work by encouraging people to take public transportation, car-pool, walk, bike or Rollerblade. Both the city and the University will be awarding prizes. To register, visit [www.commuterchallenge.ca](http://www.commuterchallenge.ca), type "Guelph" into the "Community" box and list your workplace as U of G. Hard-copy log sheets will also be distributed to departments across campus.

# COUNSELLING AVAILABLE

Following recent natural disasters in China, Myanmar and the United States, members of the University community are reminded that counselling services are always available to help students and employees, including during times of global distress. These services include Counselling Services at Ext. 53244, the Multi-Faith Resource Team at Ext. 52392, the Centre for International Programs at Ext. 53954 and academic advisers and program counsellors. Faculty and staff can also access the Employee Assistance Program at Ext. 52133.

# DEADLINE FOR EXEMPLARY STAFF AWARDS NEARS

May 31 is the deadline to submit nominations for the President's Awards for Exemplary Staff Service. The awards recognize employees who have demonstrated outstanding service and/or who have made significant contributions to the University community beyond what is expected of their position. For more information, visit [www.uoguelph.ca/president/exemplaryservice](http://www.uoguelph.ca/president/exemplaryservice), call Claire Alexander at Ext. 53098 or send e-mail to [c.alexander@exec.uoguelph.ca](mailto:c.alexander@exec.uoguelph.ca).

# 2008 LEAVE FOR CHANGE LAUNCH SET FOR JUNE 6

Members of the University are invited to join president Alastair Summerlee and community partners for the launch of the 2008 Leave for Change program June 6 from 3 to 4 p.m. in the McLaughlin Library Learning Commons. It's an opportunity to meet the U of G employees who will spend their holidays this year volunteering in a developing country.



Photographs by retired geography professor Fred Dahms grace the cover of his new book.

# Close to Home

*Geographer's new book a guide to local treasures in Wellington County*

BY TERESA PITMAN

**"IF YOU WANT TO SEE** beautiful towns, you don't have to go to Europe," says retired geography professor Fred Dahms. "Just get off the 400 series of highways and see what the back roads of Ontario have to offer."

As fuel prices rise with no end in sight, many people are considering rejigging vacation plans this year to involve less time on the road and more time exploring close to home. Good news — Dahms is here to help. With his new book, *Wellington County*, on your bookshelf, you'll be inspired to discover some local treasures this summer.

Building on his interest in the connections between people and the land, Dahms has spent many decades researching Wellington County communities and the evolution of local towns.

"Many small towns were born at a time when farmers needed to go somewhere to pick up their mail," he says. "A town would start with a post office, then some stores and other businesses would develop around it."

When rural mail delivery started, those regular trips into town stopped, and because more people had cars, they tended to head for bigger towns or cities to shop. Some of

the little towns disappeared, but others found they could attract tourists and have a new focus.

"Both Fergus and Elora, for example, have many stores and restaurants to appeal to tourists," says Dahms, "and they hold special events during the year. Entrepreneurs have rejuvenated many of these little towns."

*"If you want to see beautiful towns, you don't have to go to Europe."*

Elora is one of the towns he recommends for people looking for a close-to-home trip. "It's beautiful all year-round — and don't miss going down into the gorge."

Another spot he loves is the Rockwood Conservation Area. "That area was underwater during the last ice age, and there are interesting potholes on the cliffs and caverns that are left over from that time. It's a fascinating landscape."

Wellington County also has a "phenomenal number" of artists and artisans, says Dahms, who devotes an entire chapter of his book to the local arts scene. He recommends

taking one of the tours of artists' studios offered throughout the year, such as the Hills of Erin Studio Tour held in September.

The photographs that illustrate the book represent many hours of work over a period of about three years. Dahms took more than a thousand shots and winnowed them down to about 600 to send off to his publisher.

About 150 made it into the book, and they showcase local landscapes, architecture — including many buildings on the U of G campus — and people. Among them is the last photo taken of artist Ken Danby before he died in 2007.

For readers interested in local agricultural history, Dahms devotes one chapter to the history of Blythwood, a farm now owned and run by Donald and Joyce Blyth that has been borne to the Blyth family since 1863. He describes the challenges that the first settlers faced in clearing the land and building their homes.

"I think people are generally interested in knowing more about the places where they live or work and how they got the way they are today," says Dahms.

*Wellington County* was published by the Boston Mills Press and is available in local bookstores and at the University Bookstore.

# people

## ECOLOGY PROF HONOURED

Prof. Madhur Anand, Environmental Biology, was recently inducted into the Hall of Fame at Oakville's Thomas A. Blakelock High School, which she graduated from in 1989.

## KUDOS FOR COACH

Dave Scott-Thomas, head coach of U of G's cross-country and track-and-field teams, has been named the Ontario University Athletics FOX 40 Male Coach of the Year.

The following appointments were recently announced at U of G:

- Shawn Camp, head coach of men's hockey, Athletics
- Sharon Campbell-Claessens, administrative secretary, Teaching Support Services (TSS)
- Min Chen, general accountant, Controller's Office
- Shelagh Daly, secretary, Sociology and Anthropology
- Goran Gavrilovic, manager of space administration, design, engineering and construction, Physical Resources
- Richard Gorrie, manager of learning technology and courseware innovation, TSS
- Nathaniel Groendyk, electronic technologist, School of Engineering
- Katrina Jablonski, secretary to the associate VP (research services)
- Trevor Kanerva, assistant chief stationary engineer, Physical Resources
- Steve Klopper, general agricultural assistant, Office of Research
- Ruth Lesins, B.Comm. program counsellor's assistant, College of Management and Economics.

## IN MEMORIAM

### MARK ADAMS

Mark Adams, a master's candidate in the Department of Philosophy, died April 30 in Nova Scotia at the age of 25. He is survived by his parents, a brother and a son.

### DAVID HOLMBERG

Prof. David Holmberg, a member of the Department of Clinical Studies since 1986, died May 13 at age 58. A graduate of the University of Minnesota and the University of Saskatchewan, he is survived by a brother. A celebration of his life will be held June 16 at 5 p.m. in the OVC Learning Centre. Anyone wishing to share thoughts, stories and photos can contact Jennifer Beehler at [jbeehler@uoguelph.ca](mailto:jbeehler@uoguelph.ca).

# Spring Not So Dandy for Ridding Lawns of Dandelions

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**IF YOU THINK SPRING** is the best time to try and rid your lawn of those dreaded dandelions, you're about six months too late.

Research by Prof. Rene Van Acker, chair of the Department of Plant Agriculture, has found that gardeners need to be attacking these weeds in the fall if they want to prevent them from reappearing.

"You can put a huge dent in the

dandelion population if you deal with it in the fall because that way you're killing the next generation before it has a chance to flower and spread its seeds," he says.

"People tend to concentrate on getting rid of the dandelions when they see those yellow flowers in the spring, but they are much more difficult to kill at this point. Pulling them out will work, but they can often withstand any herbicide."

Spraying at this time of year is also ineffective in killing the seedlings that will appear as flowers next year because these young plants don't emerge from your lawn until the middle of the summer, he says.

Van Acker began studying the life cycle of dandelions in 2000 when farmers in Western Canada found their wheat and canola crops were infested with the weed.

Over a five-year span, he worked

with master's students Kristen Hacault and Nathan Froese to determine why the dandelion proliferates so successfully. His research was published in *Weed Science* and *Weed Technology*.

What he found was that farmers were spraying the dandelions in the spring in an attempt to kill the mother flower, but many still flowered, set seeds and then spread these seeds, he says.

"When the farmers changed to spraying in the fall, the results were like night and day. The dandelion is much more physiologically susceptible to spray in the fall, so it's easier to stop them from populating."

Ultimately, the best strategy is to pull the flowered weeds in the spring and spray or pull the young plants in the fall as well, he says. "It's the only way you can stay on top of the dandelion issue."



# HNRU a 'One-Stop Shop' in New Home

Human Nutraceutical Research Unit relocates to Guelph Food Technology Centre

BY ANDREW VOWLES

FROM YOGURT to a hangover cure, a variety of foods and food supplements undergo testing at the University to ensure they live up to their health benefit billing. Now much of that testing will occur in improved quarters — complete with a new metabolic kitchen and sensory analysis lab — closer to the food and human health cluster on campus.

After three months of construction, the new 3,700-square-foot home for the Human Nutraceutical Research Unit (HNRU) — part of the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences (HHNS) — is scheduled to open later this month.

The unit will operate in the Guelph Food Technology Centre, adjoining the Food Science Building. HNRU director Prof. Amanda Wright says it makes sense for the facility to be located closer to HHNS and the Department of Food Science. For the past 10 years, the Powell Building has been its home.

The unit conducts for-fee clinical trials to verify or disprove manufacturers' claims of the

health benefits of their foods and natural health products. Wright says business is growing, particularly since 2004 when Health Canada introduced new guidelines for makers and sellers of natural health products.

Companies contract with the HNRU for both repeated and one-off trials. The unit also consults with clients on how to set up and run tests using human subjects. This year the unit began trials for a new yogurt as well as tests of an herbal supplement believed to relieve hangover symptoms.

Half of its clients are based in Canada and half abroad.

Although other facilities conduct such testing — mostly private contractors — Wright says the HNRU is unique because of its ties to human health and food researchers and educators on campus.

"Our educational mandate is really central to what we do. Having the HNRU at the University allows us to uniquely train graduates to go out and support the functional food and natural health products industries."

That teaching function overlaps with fac-

ulty research in HHNS and the Department of Food Science. Wright, for instance, is working with colleague Prof. Alison Duncan to study the effects of dietary pulses — lentils, chick peas — on gastrointestinal and cardiovascular health. Other faculty are looking at fish oils for reducing the risk of cardiovascular disease and fibre-enriched dairy products and breads specially designed for people with diabetes.

Wright says companies are eager to introduce various health-promoting and disease-preventing compounds to ordinary foods. "The food industry is targeting all foods to be functional."

The new HNRU space will contain a metabolic kitchen equipped with sophisticated equipment — balances, pH meters, temperature controls — to prepare meals, products and ingredients to exacting standards. In an adjoining room, trial subjects will consume foods and watch food preparation to follow dietary protocol at home during longer studies.

A new sensory evaluation lab will allow researchers and staff to assess such aspects of foods as taste, texture and aroma. That means

clients may assess not just what's inside certain products but also how consumers will react to a new or reformulated food. Wright says that lab will also help in training students in sensory evaluation of foods. (The Department of Food Science is hiring a faculty member specializing in sensory science.)

The new location will also have a Level 2 wet lab for handling biological samples.

Wright works with HNRU manager Hilary Tulk, a Guelph graduate, and several part-time technicians. Wright and Duncan sit on the HNRU management committee with HHNS colleagues Prof. Bill Bettger and department chair Terry Graham.

John Kelly, executive director of Guelph's MaRS Landing, says the HNRU is an integral part of the cluster of human health, agriculture and food research and development around the University. He says the unit's new quarters "will make a one-stop shop for people interested in developing new products. They'll be able to do immediate clinical testing and provide full service to potential clients, so that's a real win."

## U of G Is Go-to Source for Comment on Food Costs

National media look to Guelph experts to help explain rising food, energy prices

BY ANDREW VOWLES

CALL IT "FARE" comment. Anyone following this spring's media coverage of rising global food prices — and the yoked topic of increasing energy costs — has probably seen or heard a few familiar names from U of G, especially the Department of Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (FARE).

One of those names has been that of Prof. Alfons Weersink, acting chair of FARE.

"I think I've had more interview contact in the last six weeks than in the previous six years," he says, referring to numerous interviews on air and in print. He's not alone.

Pointing to a number of experts from his department and across campus, Weersink says Guelph's strengths in economics, food and agriculture have made the University a go-to source for reporters and editors looking to inform local and national audiences about the current

hot topic of food and energy prices.

Equally important, he says, faculty members have had a chance to correct a few common misconceptions about food and fuel — and even head off a few misguided story lines. Take the widespread notion that food prices are rising mostly because farmers are growing crops for biofuels, causing a food shortage that has led to higher prices at the grocery store.

"Biofuels have gone from energy saviour to the cause of the food crisis and the cause of climate change," he says. "It's definitely not all those things. But sometimes a reporter wants to take an extreme slant one way or the other."

Adding that sometimes he's discussed this point with reporters and then looked in vain for a resulting article or news clip, Weersink says no news on the biofuels connection may reflect his having set the record straight.

"Maybe the stories that don't appear are of the most value."

When his comments have made it to the airwaves, as in appearances on CBC's *The National* and Global TV's morning show, they've been intended to put the global food crisis and the role of biofuels such as ethanol in perspective.

He and his colleagues have seen two other main questions come up again and again in various interviews. Why is there a global food crisis? And why are Canadians not generally seeing the effects — or, by extension, are food prices about to explode here in North America?

Look for food price inflation here, says Weersink, but not because of pending shortages. He says price increases will come because of the main factor pushing up the general inflation rate: energy.

In a recent commentary piece, he wrote: "Energy represents the major share of the consumer food dollar.

Increases in the price of crude oil impact the whole system, from farm production through processing to distribution and retail."

Many economists and agricultural researchers agree that Canadians have generally been shielded from the kinds of price changes that have racked poor households in developing countries. Why? You need to distinguish between crop prices and food prices, says Weersink.

For a poor household in a developing nation, crop prices are basically the same as food prices. Someone buying wheat to make bread or purchasing corn for tortillas may have just enough money for the raw commodity. Increase crop prices and you may put food out of reach of the world's poorest people.

Contrast that with food prices in Canada or the United States, which typically take up only about 10 per cent of household income. Corn itself might account for about two cents' worth of a \$1 soft drink or six

cents' worth of a box of cornflakes. Other factors — notably that energy driver — affect costs in a restaurant or grocery store in North America.

"We're not going to see a food shortage, but perhaps we're highlighting the plight felt by the less fortunate," says Weersink, who says he's noticed little change in his own family's grocery bills.

That goes as well for FARE professor Maury Bredahl. Besides general media coverage, he notes that his department and members of the Ontario Agricultural College have weighed in on the price debates in more conventional ways — for academics, at least.

Notably, he and other FARE faculty took part in a discussion of energy and crop prices during the most recent Policy Education Program (PEP) session held in Guelph last month. Held four times a year, the half-day sessions cover various policy topics for up to 45 leaders in Ontario farm organizations.

Call it serendipity, says Bredahl. This year's PEP session covered "Food, Feed and Fuel" and featured economists from the American Farm Bureau in Washington, D.C., and Iowa State University along with Weersink.

Other U of G faculty who have recently commented on food prices and related topics include Prof. Andreas Boecker, FARE, who spoke to the *Globe and Mail* about how organic food has increasingly become a global industry. Prof. Dave Sparling, associate dean (research and graduate studies) of the College of Management and Economics, appeared on radio and in print discussing global food prices and effects on Canadians. Prof. Massimo Marcone, Food Science, spoke to *CBC News* about the nutritional impacts of food prices.

**Guelph Chamber Choir**

**Guelph Chamber Choir**

GERALD NEUFELD conductor

with

**Guelph Concert Band**

HENRY JANZEN conductor

and

guest community choirs

*Songfest 2008*

Afternoon at

**The Proms**

**JUNE 1, 2008 2 PM River Run Centre, Guelph**

Celebrate Canada's British heritage with a traditional "Night at the Proms" concert. Hear such favourites as Land of Hope and Glory, The Maple Leaf Forever, and much more!

**TICKETS: \$20 adult • \$10 student • \$5**

order by phone 519-763-3000 or toll-free 1-877-522-2408 or on-line at [www.riverrun.ca](http://www.riverrun.ca)

OPTOMETRISTS

**GOEMANS & ASSOCIATES**

**Dr. Donna Goemans**  
**Dr. Paul Goemans**  
**Dr. Doris Hrvatin**  
**Dr. Tiffany Tang**

Evenings & Saturday  
Appointments Available

**NEW PATIENTS WELCOMED**

Contact Lenses, Eyeglasses,  
Sports Eyewear, Sports Vision,  
Binocular Vision,  
Laser Surgery Consultation

570 Kortright Rd. W, Guelph, Ont

**519 824-4425**

Free Parking, Wheel Chair Accessible



# Her Science Project

BY ANDREW VOWLES

**T**HAT CLEAR PLASTIC BIN on Jenny Fender's desk held everything she'd need for her latest road trip. Preparing for a visit to girls at a Goderich high school in mid-May, she planned to help talk up careers in science and engineering. But what was this in the box — materials for making lip gloss?

Getting girls to look past career stereotypes is part of Fender's job as project manager for the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC)/HP Chair for Women in Science and Engineering at U of G. Last fall, the Guelph grad moved to the Thornbrough Building from a related job with the Rural Women Making Change (RWMC) program based in U of G's Centre for Families, Work and Well-being.

Earlier Fender had completed both undergraduate and master's degrees here in political science and international development, the latter finished in 2006. What did that education and earlier work experience have to do with engineering?

Nothing directly, she says. But there's a wider connection. "I'm interested in inequality issues," says Fender.

That interest spans social change and widening horizons for women and youngsters, especially teenage girls. She now hopes to encourage girls to consider prospective studies and careers in science and engineering, areas typically overlooked by females.

Women made up about 17 per cent of enrolment in Canadian undergraduate engineering programs in 2005, down from 20 per cent in 2001, according to the Canadian Coalition of Women in Engineering, Science, Trades and Technology (CCWESTT). That translated into fewer than 10,000 women studying engineering in 2005, compared with more than 45,000 men.

Fender says the gender mix is



Jenny Fender wants girls to look past career stereotyping.

PHOTO BY MARTIN SCHWALBE

more balanced at Guelph, particularly in biological engineering and environmental engineering programs. Still, she's working hard at getting out the engineering message to youngsters, especially girls.

Hence her recent visit to Goderich, one that connected Fender back to her previous campus employer in a way. She went with chair holder and engineering professor Val Davidson and chemistry PhD student Janet Baron-Gavidia.

Last year, Davidson had met up with Pam Hanington, a Goderich-based collaborator with RWMC, a community/university research alliance. Hanington helped arrange their Goderich visits under RWMC's "Gural" research project for rural girls.

Davidson had first visited the Goderich high school in 2007 to talk to girls about science and engineering.

This year Fender helped run the workshop.

Their teenage listeners learned about chemistry by making bath fizzies (carbon dioxide is what makes the bubbles) and lip gloss (a lead-in to discussing skin pH and acid-base balance).

"The girls really seemed to get excited about the design aspects and being able to make those connections with science even with something as simple as the pH of our skin," says Fender.

Besides sparking or reinforcing an interest in science among some students, the session may have also opened eyes among a few attendees considered at risk of dropping out of high school entirely. She and Davidson have also worked with partners in Toronto's Jane-Finch neighbourhood to deliver a workshop for high school girls.

Back at Guelph, Fender helps organize projects for Science and Engineering Sundays, Interaction, College Royal and design contests, notably WindENG and Roboticon. For many campus initiatives, she works with liaison officers in her school and elsewhere in the College of Physical and Engineering Science.

She also enlists student volunteers, many eager to share their own passion for the field.

Alana Cordick, a master's student in the Department of Computing and Information Science who founded a group called CISters last year with Profs. Deb Stacey and Judi McQuaig, worked with Fender this year on events to promote computing science among girls.

"It's important to provide positive female role models to younger females, as well as educate them about computing science, including

current research and available career paths," says Cordick.

In another collaborative project, Davidson helped bring together engineering schools from across the province to form the Ontario Network of Women in Engineering. That group runs GoEngGirl, a one-day interactive program at Ontario engineering schools for girls in grades 7 to 10.

Another engineering colleague, Virginia Kostianuk, is outreach co-ordinator for ready, SET, go!, a high school workshop program that's also part of Guelph's Chair for Women in Science and Engineering.

Speaking of her work with these varied initiatives, Fender says: "It's about showing girls that science and engineering are fun, and revealing the amazing and diverse opportunities in these fields that so many people are unaware of."

Besides youth projects, she helps U of G students develop skills for university studies and for entering the workforce. Along with Prof. Fred Evers, director of Teaching Support Services, she runs workshops to help students assemble skills portfolios and prepare for job interviews.

"The Chair for Women in Science and Engineering program runs from youth outreach to transitions into university and careers to in-career faculty issues," she says.

Fender is now organizing a CCWESTT conference to be held May 29 to 31 at U of G. Called "Building on Success," the event will attract about 250 delegates. Keynote speakers include NSERC president Suzanne Fortier.

This year's conference also includes a special program for the daughters of conference participants. Designed for children aged seven to 14, it will feature a Blackberry workshop, bridge building and soccer ball aerodynamics.

For more information about the conference, visit [www.ccwest2008.ca](http://www.ccwest2008.ca) or call Ext. 53674.

## All in the Family

Statistician's research aims to improve odds of tracking down disease-causing genes

BY TERESA PITMAN

**A**LITTLE RECAP of high school biology: a baby gets one chromosome of each pair from its mother and the other from its father. Within each chromosome are the genes that determine things like the baby's hair colour, future height and, for some, the inheritance of a genetic disease.

You can see it would be useful to be able to identify which chromosomes contain the specific genes that cause those diseases. Some of the research that's helping to do that comes not from the field of medicine or even biology but from mathematics.

"I've been working on this research since 2000, and I'm still passionate about it," says Prof. Zeny

Feng, Mathematics and Statistics, who joined the University in August 2006. A statistician, she focuses on the analysis of genetic data in her research.

Here's how it works. Consider, for example, a family that has two children affected by a genetic disease (and perhaps some other children who aren't affected). It's likely that the two affected children have inherited the same chromosome with the disease-causing gene from one or both parents. They should therefore have not only that gene in common but some others as well, which means they would have other traits such as eye colour in common, too.

Now imagine you have many families in this situation and can combine all the data. Feng's research develops statistical ways to analyze

this information, first by establishing a threshold for the general distribution of genes.

"This gives us a cutoff level, and then the attributes that get higher scores — the ones that are more often shared by the siblings with the disease — are going to be the ones that are closer to the disease-causing gene on the chromosome," she says.

Of course, it's not always quite that simple because some traits are caused by several genes working together. Feng's contribution is to provide statistical tools that help sort through the data and reveal the locations of the genes causing the disease.

Although her work is theoretical, the practical implications are clear, she says. "It's like narrowing the field where we aim the telescope. The re-

searcher has to look at just one fragment instead of 23 chromosomes."

Feng discovered her love of mathematics and statistics early on. She grew up in Gwangzhou, China, near Hong Kong but immigrated to Canada with her parents at age 18 and enrolled at York University.

Studying in English was challenging, she admits. "In China, we study English starting in Grade 6, but it's only one course each term."

After York, Feng earned her master's and PhD degrees at the University of Waterloo, then did a post-doc at Yale before coming to Guelph.

At York and Waterloo, she made friends with other students from countries as diverse as France, Korea, Iran, Iraq and India, as well as Canadians who were only a generation away from their European or

Asian heritage.

"That's been good preparation for teaching at Guelph because we have students from many different cultures," she says. "I try to listen to people more, so I can learn about them and understand them."

Although she had some experience teaching in graduate school, she confesses she was "very nervous" about facing her first classes here.

"I have more confidence now, but I'm very sensitive to the students' reactions. If they are concentrating and asking questions, I feel that I'm doing a good job. I've come to love teaching as much as I love doing research."

Last year, Feng embarked on a new kind of genetics project: the birth of her son, Jeremy, now 13 months old.



## BLAIR NONNECKE

Faculty member in the Department of Computing and Information Science since 2001

Two of Prof. Blair Nonnecke's favourite pastimes are rooted in his childhood.

When he was four, his parents bought him his first bike, and today mountain biking is one of his biggest interests outside of academics.

Besides hitting the "amazing" trails in Guelph and surrounding area, Nonnecke has been enjoying international bike touring for the past 30 years. He's been on tours in New Zealand, Ireland and England and plans to return to England next year for a trip that will take him from the northern part of the country to the south.

"It's a self-sufficient way to travel because everything you need is on your bicycle," he says. "When you're a kid, getting your first bicycle gives you a total sense of freedom, and the sense of adventure I had as a kid has never left."

Nonnecke also finds freedom and adventure through photography, a hobby he developed after his parents bought him a darkroom set when he was nine.

"It forever changed my life. If I wasn't doing what I'm doing now, I'd love to be a photographer."

The subjects of his photo collection range from water and flowers to graffiti and architecture. One of his favourite sets of images depicts a variety of crushed cans. To view a selection of his work, go to [www.flickr.com/people/blairware](http://www.flickr.com/people/blairware).



Blair Nonnecke

she taught English at a private school for a month. There, she familiarized herself with some of the local delicacies, including eel, chicken feet and bamboo.

"I pretty much tried anything they put in front of me. It was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, so I wanted to experience as much of the culture as I could."

She says her next big trip will be to Africa. "I'm hoping to go once I complete my master's. I enjoy seeing all the things the world has to offer."

For now, her only travel plan is a trip home to visit with friends and family in Kingston in August.

Conboy also enjoys volunteering her time to better her community. Since arriving at Guelph, she has volunteered in the nursery at St. Andrew's Church and in the child-life department at the Kingston General Hospital.

"I'm trying to do things in my field to get a sense of the best path to follow."

## GRACHELLA GARCIA

Supervisor of intramurals, clubs and instructional programs in the Department of Athletics, joined U of G in 2001

To say that volleyball is a big part of Grachella Garcia's life would be an understatement. She was introduced to the sport by her mother, a former player herself, at age 11 and has never looked back.

Garcia played for the junior national team in her native Philippines, then continued to play high school volleyball when her family immigrated to Canada and settled in Timmins. From there, she played for Lake Superior State University in Michigan, Cambrian College and U of G.

Besides playing doubles beach volleyball during the summer, Garcia is a member of a U of G alumni indoor team made up of seven grads and some friends. Their coach, Larry Pearson, is also a Guelph grad. The team plays in three leagues and is preparing to take on the world at the masters league championships in Sydney, Australia, next year.

Garcia is also active off the court as a member of the YMCA-YWCA board of directors, a position she accepted in 2006.

"I'm able to draw a lot from the other members because they're such distinguished professionals in their fields," she says, "and I enjoy being able to contribute to the decision-making process."

She also sits on the board of the Canadian Intramural Recreation Association.



Grachella Garcia

## LAURA CONBOY

Master's student in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition

Laura Conboy has been bitten by the travel bug, and she's no stranger to international adventure.

Last summer, she and a group of friends did a two-week tour of Europe, visiting Paris, London, Barcelona, Brussels, Munich and Rome.

"Europe was absolutely gorgeous," she says. "There's so much art and architecture to see."

She spent part of the summer of 2006 in China, where



Laura Conboy

# CIHR Supports Health Research

Continued from page 1

to stresses, and whether they can be effective targets for drug intervention.

In the Department of Human Health and Nutritional Sciences, Prof. Marica Bakovic received \$553,140 for a five-year study of the behaviour of lipid genes to find ways of overcoming malfunctions. Improper lipid balance is the main risk factor for developing chronic diseases such as insulin resistance, obesity and atherosclerosis (clogging, narrowing and hardening of the arteries).

Prof. Ray Lu, Molecular and Cellular Biology, is also examining biological functions. He will use his \$565,975 five-year grant to continue his research on the interactions of two novel human proteins — Luman and Zhangfei. His work will help solve the mystery of the latency of the herpes simplex virus, as well as lead to better understanding of gene regulation in cancer, diabetes and viral infections.

"My lab team and I are all very excited and encouraged by the good news of my grant renewal," says Lu.

"The continued support from CIHR is essential for us to carry on our research in this important and rapidly developing field."

U of G scientists will be collaborating with Chinese researchers as part of a joint initiative on stem cell research headed by Prof. Julang Li, Animal and Poultry Science. Li received \$89,550 to examine whether in vitro culture influences genome stability of somatic stem cells. The work will provide insight into whether it's safe to use such cells for tissue therapy purposes.

In addition, two faculty members in the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition received funding to further their research. Prof. Janis Randall-Simpson will use her nearly \$20,000 grant to bring NutriSTEP, the preschooler nutrition screening tool she developed with Prof. Heather Keller, to the World Wide Web.

Keller also received the Betty Havens Award for Knowledge Translation in Aging and will use the \$20,000 to continue her work on nutrition screening in the elderly.

## CHINA'S EARTHQUAKE VICTIMS NEED OUR HELP

The death toll continues to rise following last week's 7.9-magnitude earthquake in Sichuan Province in South China. Cities and towns are ruined or seriously damaged. People there need help.

At this very difficult time, please come together, hand in hand, to help minimize this disaster. Any

donation, large or small, is a kind signal of care and good wishes.

To make a donation to quake relief, visit the Canadian Red Cross website at [www.paypaq.com/redcross/new/index.php](http://www.paypaq.com/redcross/new/index.php) or call 1-800-418-1111.

Prof. Wanhong Yang  
Department of Geography

letters

## D & D GRANITEWORX INC.

GRANITE ♦ MARBLE ♦ NATURAL STONE  
DESIGN ♦ MANUFACTURE ♦ INSTALLATION

ROB DURIGON

519-821-5880  
519-821-2422 fax

987 York Road, Unit #3  
Guelph, Ontario N1E 6Y9  
[graniteworx.ca](http://graniteworx.ca)

## YOUR PREFERRED

### Group Auto & Home INSURANCE PROGRAM



Call today for a no-obligation quote

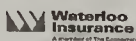
Toll Free 1-800-482-0822

Local 519-836-5700

Or visit our website at [www.staebler.com](http://www.staebler.com)

Save Up To 50% In Insurance Product Discounts

plus Your Group Discount!



Visit us at [www.economicalinsurance.com](http://www.economicalinsurance.com)



summer fun for everyone!

JULY AND AUGUST 2008

Memorable, best-loved day camp activities for children and youth ages 4-14+

UNIVERSITY OF GUELPH CAMPUS

CALL 519-837-0387 or visit us at

[www.rainbowdaycamp.com](http://www.rainbowdaycamp.com)

Swimming everyday!!

The next issue of *At Guelph* appears June 4. Copy deadline is May 27.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## FOR SALE

Black 2006 Honda Ridgeline EXL, 65,000 kilometres, immaculate; 2000 Millennium Edition Mazda Miata, maroon with tan top, leather interior, 62,000 km, excellent condition, 416-602-5499 or clarkin@lsd.uoguelph.ca.

Four 15-inch 4x4 rims, used on Jimmy 4x4, scurrie@uoguelph.ca.

Men's left-handed golf clubs, 519-821-6499.

Patio set: white oval table, six chairs and side table, free delivery in Guelph, 519-824-5440.

Mirror dinghy sailboat with towing/launching trailer and design/instruction booklets, sailed last season but needs minor annual maintenance, kslater@uoguelph.ca.

Computer desks, TV, single bed, JVC stereo, chest of drawers, chairs, carpets and much more, 519-780-2676.

## FOR RENT

Two-bedroom lakefront cottage on Ahmic Lake east of Parry Sound, plus self-contained two-bedroom guest cottage, suitable for two families, decks, docks, canoe, barbecue, \$1,200 a week for July and August, lower rates for off season and multiple weeks, 519-824-1773 or bgreen@rproyalcity.com.

Partially furnished two-bedroom apartment in London close to University of Western Ontario, suitable for couple or mature students, parking, non-smokers, no pets, available

Aug. 1 on one-year lease, \$575 a month per bedroom inclusive, Lena, 519-843-3470 or nudds.family@sympatico.ca.

Three-bedroom cottage near Sauble Beach on treed lot, fully equipped and well-maintained, \$900 a week in July and August, \$750 a week in June and September, \$500 for other weeks, 519-822-6765.

Furnished three-bedroom house, 1½ baths, fireplace, grand piano, large private yard, pool, garage, close to schools and shopping, 10-minute bus ride to campus, available Aug. 15 for one year, \$1,500 a month plus utilities, 519-826-0554 or ewaterma@uoguelph.ca.

Four-bedroom stone house on quiet street in downtown Guelph, 1½ baths, large yard, parking for two vehicles, available July 1 for one year, \$1,300 a month plus utilities, 412-586-5523 or jlampert@uoguelph.ca.

Partially furnished room in lower level of condo, fireplace, private bath, kitchenette/laundry room, cable and Internet, suitable for mature female, non-smoker, no pets, \$575 a month inclusive or reduced rent to hold until September, 519-837-4378 or elayne.starr@gmail.com.

Three-bedroom house in south end, ideal for visiting faculty, available Aug. 1 to mid-December, Melody, Ext. 54337, 519-836-6264 or m.wren@exec.uoguelph.ca.

Two-bedroom holiday home in Antibes on French Riviera, weekly or monthly, Nicole, 519-836-6745 or funmoll@rogers.com.

## WANTED

Housing in Guelph to swap for three-bedroom executive townhouse in Austin, Tex., close to University of Texas, September 2008 to June 2009, austinwap@live.com.

Person to house-sit three cats in exchange for reasonable rent, one cat is diabetic and needs two insulin shots daily, no experience needed but references are required, Jayne, 519-822-6937.

Subjects needed for study by the Department of Family Relations and Applied Nutrition and Health Canada on levels of zinc in six- to eight-year-old boys, requires three visits over a four-month period, compensation provided, 519-820-2633 or zip@uoguelph.ca.

## AVAILABLE

Care for your dog in my home while you travel, 519-836-8086 or cdemmers@uoguelph.ca.

**George's**  
Windows and Doors

George Wallace

11 Victoria Road North,  
Guelph, Ont. N1E 5G6

(519) 821-7800  
Fax (519) 821-7810



## Where Are You Now?

If you can identify where this photo was taken, you will have your name entered in a draw to be held in June for a \$50 gift certificate provided by the U of G Bookstore. Anyone who submits the right answer by May 23 at 4:45 p.m. is eligible for the draw. Send your response to r.kendall@exec.uoguelph.ca or call Ext. 56039. The following people correctly reported that the April 23 photo was shot through a lattice by the peace pole near Zavitz Hall: Ray Hutchison, Maurice Nelischer, Bill Clair, Danny Martin and Krista Bianco.

## Central Animal Facility/ Animal Care Services 16th Annual Open House

**Thursday, May 29, 2008  
11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**BBQ Lunch:** Burger and Pop for \$5.00  
(regular and veggie burgers)  
Proceeds to the United Way  
**Free Coffee and Desserts**  
**Raffle**

**Guided Tours and Displays**  
**CAF/ACS Cookbook for Sale**

Located at the Central Animal Facility  
(Building #12 on the Campus Map)

*Come see what we are all about!!*

## WELCOME TO DELTA GUELPH HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE.

### SPECIAL WEEKEND RATE

from **\$119.00\***  
per night

Offer for Friday, Saturday, Sunday only

- \* Starts March 7, until June 29, 2008
- \*\* Upgrade to our special weekend package for \$199. Includes a three-course dinner and breakfast for two at Fifty West Restaurant and Bar.\*\*

**DELTA**  
GUELPH  
HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

Call 519-780-3700 or visit [www.deltaguelph.com](http://www.deltaguelph.com) and quote code GTrib.

## MONTESSORI SCHOOL OF WELLINGTON established 1996



- Full- & half-day programs for 2 1/2 to 5 years
- After-school program to 6 p.m.
- Large gym & outdoor play area
- Enhanced reading, writing & math
- French, music, art & physical education
- Social skill development in family setting

**PREPARE YOUR CHILD FOR  
SOCIAL AND ACADEMIC SUCCESS**

**519-821-5876**

(located in Dublin Street United Church)  
68 Suffolk Street West, Guelph N1H 2J2  
[www.montessori-school.ca](http://www.montessori-school.ca)



# EVENTS

## ARBORETUM

Richard Tofflemire leads a workshop on bird sounds June 6 from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Cost is \$55. Registration and payment are required by May 23. Call Ext. 52358.

"Look, See, Paint" is the focus of a half-day workshop led by naturalist Chris Earley June 11. Sessions are offered at 9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Cost is \$25. Register by May 28.

## ART CENTRE

The Macdonald Stewart Art Centre's brown bag lunch series presents Flora Macdonald Spencer May 27 at noon. She will discuss the life and art of her late father, whose work is the focus of the current exhibition *Evan Macdonald: A Painter's Life*.

The art centre hosts an afternoon of free family-friendly educational activities that celebrate artists June 7. The day will feature Guelph sculptor Susan Detwiler from 12:30 to 2 p.m. and Guelph painter Don Russell from 2:30 to 4 p.m. At 4 p.m., Flora Macdonald Spencer will lead a tour of the exhibition *Evan Macdonald: A Painter's Life*.

## NOTICES

During the summer semester, the McLaughlin Library will be open

Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and weekends and holidays from noon to 10 p.m. The OVC Learning Commons will be open Monday to Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. and weekends from 1 to 5 p.m., and will be closed on statutory holidays.

Occupational Health and Wellness hosts a "Better 'U' Lilac Picnic" May 27 at noon at the Arboretum, weather permitting. Musician Tannis Slimmon of the Department of Integrative Biology will perform. Bring your lunch and a towel to sit on, and meet at the kiosk at the Arboretum entrance. For more information, call Ext. 52647.

The Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation is calling for nominations by May 31 for its Excellence in Education Award, which honours educators who have encouraged students in the development of sustainable communities by integrating sustainable concepts in housing and community development into their curriculum. To submit a nomination, visit [www.cmhc.ca](http://www.cmhc.ca).

A trust fund has been established for the family of Guelph resident David Ferris, who died May 12 from injuries sustained in a fall. He was the son of retired U of G Campus Community Police officer Gary Ferris. For information about donating to

the fund, contact Donna Warner at [Donna\\_j\\_warner@yahoo.ca](mailto:Donna_j_warner@yahoo.ca) or evenings at 519-822-3372.

## SEMINAR

The microbiology graduate student seminars continue May 23 with John Pfeffer discussing "O-Acetylation in *Bacillus cereus*, a Research Update" at 12:30 p.m. in science complex 2315.

## TEACHING SUPPORT

The second annual Curriculum Symposium sponsored by the Curriculum Development Resource Network runs June 3 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Arboretum Centre. Discussion will focus on capstone experiences and courses in the morning session and variable course credit weighting in the afternoon. Register before May 29 at [www.tss.uoguelph.ca](http://www.tss.uoguelph.ca). For more information, call Peter Wolf in Teaching Support Services at Ext. 52468.

## THESIS DEFENCES

The final examination of Spencer Russell, a PhD candidate in the Department of Pathobiology, is May 27 at 9 a.m. in Pathobiology 2106. The thesis is "Acute-Phase Response and Plasma Lectins of Rainbow Trout." The advisers are Profs. John Lumsden and Tony Hayes.

The final examination of M.Sc. candidate Marjorie Sorensen, Integrative Biology, is May 27 at 9 a.m. in science complex 3317. The thesis is "Linking Events of the Annual Cycle in Two Pacific Seabirds." The adviser is Prof. Ryan Norris.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Guelph's 10th annual Walk of Hope for the Schizophrenia Society of Ontario is May 25. Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. at the Evergreen Seniors Centre. Author and educator John Lord will speak before the 30- to 45-minute walk with a costume theme begins at 3:45 p.m. For more information and to register, visit [www.walkofhope.ca](http://www.walkofhope.ca).

The Guelph Chamber Choir conducted by Gerald Neufeld presents an "Afternoon at the Proms" June 1 at 2 p.m. at the River Run Centre. The concert will also feature the Guelph Concert Band and five guest choirs. For tickets, call 519-763-3000.

The Guelph Youth Music Centre presents the Potters Market, an outdoor show featuring handcrafted pottery from more than 40 Ontario artisans, May 24 and 25 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Goldie Mill. All profits will go to the centre. For more information, visit [www.thepottersmarket.ca](http://www.thepottersmarket.ca) or call 519-837-1119.

The Waterloo Wellington Wildflower Society holds its annual plant sale May 24 from 7 to 11 a.m. at the Guelph Farmers' Market.

First Light Theatre's youth production training program presents Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* May 29 to 31 and June 5 to 7 at 8 p.m. and June 1 and 8 at 2 p.m. at Riverside Park Bandshell. Suggested donation is \$10.

The 10th annual Guelph Contemporary Dance Festival runs May 29 to June 1 at the River Run Centre, Exhibition Park and St. George's Square. For program information, call 519-780-2220, send e-mail to [gdcf@bellnet.ca](mailto:gdcf@bellnet.ca) or visit the website [www.guelphcontemporarydancefestival.com](http://www.guelphcontemporarydancefestival.com).

The Guelph Little Theatre production of Peter Schaffer's *Lettice and Lovage* opens May 29 and runs weekends until June 7. Call 519-821-0270 for tickets.

The Food and Friends house tour is June 1 from noon to 4 p.m. For ticket information, call 519-846-2715, Ext. 4642.

The Guelph Horticultural Society meets May 28 at 7:30 p.m. at Dublin Street United Church. Discussion will focus on "Using Foliage to Create Garden Colour."

# Popularity Factor in *American Idol* Not a Bad Thing

*Economics prof says popularity element creates more entertaining and higher-quality program, resulting in bigger audience, higher revenues*

BY DEIRDRE HEALEY

**P**ROF. JAMES AMEGASHIE, Economics, rarely misses an episode of *American Idol* and can name many of the top contenders dating back to the first season.

But there's one episode that particularly sticks out in his mind, and that's the one where judge Simon Cowell threatened to leave if contestant Sanjaya Malakar made it to the finals. Viewers ended up advancing

the lacklustre singer to seventh place in last year's finals.

"After that, people began to criticize the show and say it was more of a popularity contest than a singing competition," says Amegashie. "But in my mind, I didn't see that as a bad thing."

This led him to write a discussion paper on the topic. In the paper, he argues that including the element of popularity in the reality show actu-

ally works to boost overall performance because it creates a more level playing field.

He reached this conclusion using a mathematical model. He found that when contestants are judged on more than just vocal talent, both the strong and the weak singers put more effort into their performances.

"Introducing the element of popularity into the contest gives the weaker singers a chance of winning by adding an element of luck. The weaker contestants will work harder knowing they may have a shot at winning, which in turn puts pressure on the stronger singers to work harder."

It's the same theory behind having second and third places in competitions, says Amegashie.

"If you have just a first place, the weaker competitors won't exert as much effort because they don't think

they can win. This will cause the top performer to slack off, resulting in a fall in aggregate efforts. But if there are second- and third-place prizes, the weaker contenders will try harder because they know they have a chance of winning a prize. This, in turn, will cause the most able contender to work harder."

Popularity begins to play a role in the *American Idol* competition once the voting is turned over from the judges to the viewers, he says. The judges select the top 24 contestants, but from then on, their fate rests solely with the viewers who vote from week to week.

"Viewers tend to care more... about factors other than a contestant's singing ability or performance," says Amegashie.

Turning the judging over to viewers is effective only when contestants have varying degrees of talent, as is

the case with *American Idol*, he adds.

"It wouldn't necessarily work as a way to level out the playing field in a reality show like *Dancing With the Stars* because the contestants are all paired with professional dancers, which is likely to narrow the differences in talent among the contestants."

But restricting the judging to viewers comes with a risk because it can prevent the best performer from being chosen as the winner, says Amegashie. The trade-off is a more entertaining and higher-quality program, which generates a larger viewing audience and ultimately higher revenues, he says.

"Since viewers' enthusiasm is easier to sustain in a contest where every contestant exerts more than a minimum effort level, allowing popularity to play such a major role may not be too high a price to pay."

## EYE EXAMS NOW ARRANGED

- Eye Doctor Prescriptions Filled
- Two Opticians with over 57 Years Combined Experience
- Senior's Discount Available
- Family has served Guelph and Wellington County since 1940

### Scott Coburn Optical

"A Name You Can Trust in Eyewear"

Mon.-Thurs. 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Fri. 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; Sat. 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

Telephone 519-821-2020



Scott Coburn

123 WYNDHAM ST. N.

Opposite the old Post Office

## May is Annual Gardening Month

Your innovative full service community garden centre.

Offering a convenient, information based shopping experience rich in inspirational displays and more.

Gorgeous European Styled Hanging Baskets & Planters, Classic & Distinct Annual Varieties...

Plus, Vast Perennial Selection, 1st Quality Ontario Trees & Shrubs, Premium Soils & Mulches—Delivered & Pick Up Available.

[www.brockroadnursery.com](http://www.brockroadnursery.com) 1858 Gordon Street, Guelph, ON, N1L 1G6 519-836-5010



brock road nursery  
Garden Centre & Gift Shoppe